PARANORMAL UNDERGROUND®

Volume 10 | Issue 3

March 2017

MISSISSIPPI PARANORMAL RESEARCH INSTITUTE

Investigating BOBBY MACKEY'S MUSIC WORLD

INSIDE THE HAUNTED ASHMORE ESTATES

WHAT IS NECROMANCY?

UFOs, Mediumship, and the Paranormal

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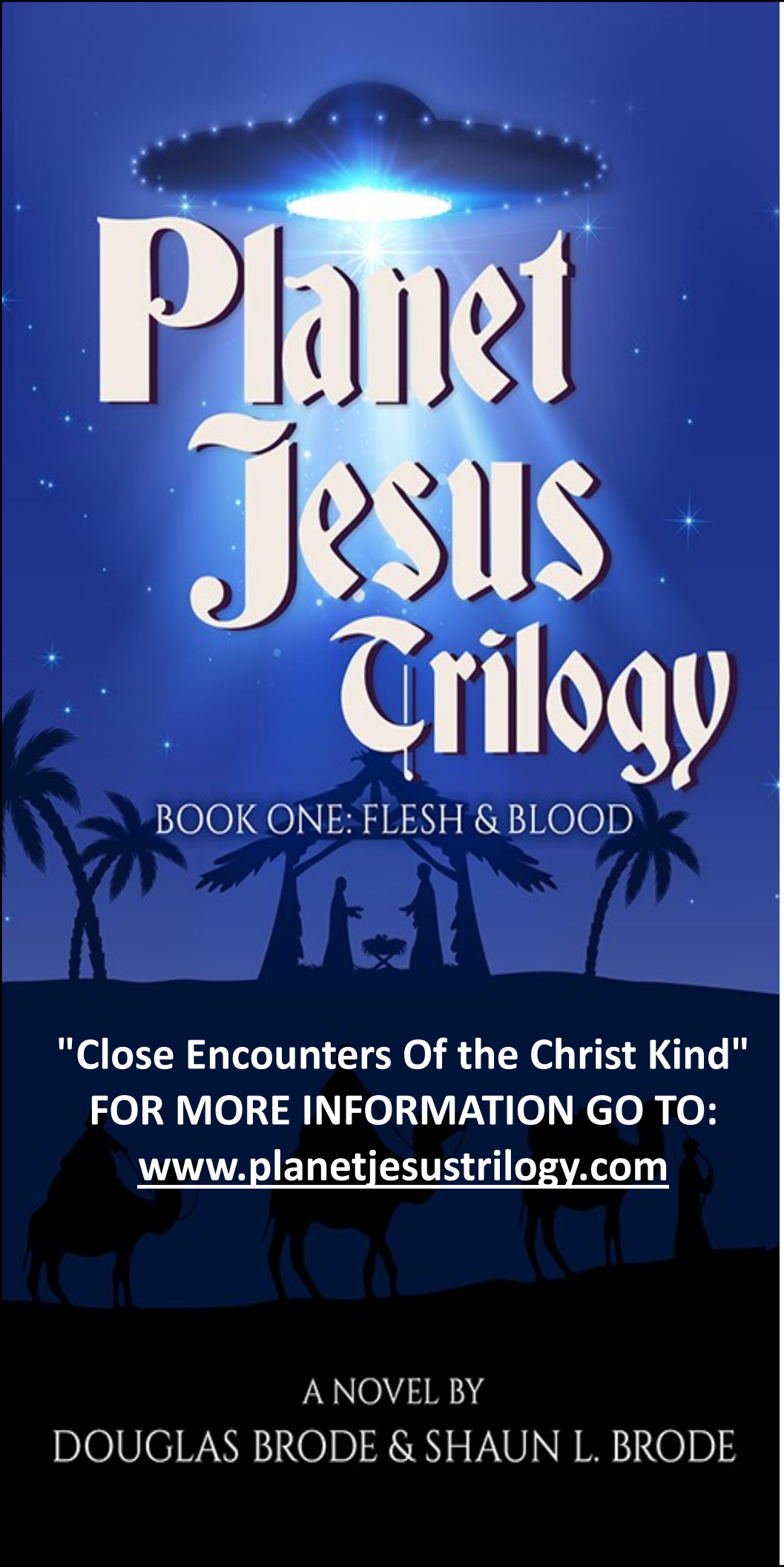
- Ryan Sprague Investigates ... Alien Phenomena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THERESA ARGIE

Theresa is the original "Haunted Housewife," a moniker she's had since 2007, although she's been living the life for well over 20 years. After nearly a decade working as a paranormal investigator, she decided to take things to the next level. The result was a collaboration with "Ghost Lady" Cathi Weber, which became the plural "Haunted Housewives."

In September 2014, Theresa released her first national book, *America's Most Haunted: The Secrets of Famous Paranormal Places*. It is a collection of the top most historically relevant haunted locations in the United States. Detailed history, first-hand accounts, and the Haunted Housewives' most profound paranormal adventures are chronicled in this myth-busting researched book.

http://www.hauntedhousewife.com/home.html

WINTER M. BALEFIRE

Winter has been an occultist and paranormal researcher for nearly 20 years. She has been published repeatedly since 2009 and has also been the subject of interviews regarding both areas of expertise.

Writing and witchcraft have always remained close to Winter's heart, feeling both require a profound understanding of one's self and environment. When she's not exploring the macabre and bizarre, Winter enjoys reading tarot, as well as writing poetry and short stories. All of her work can be viewed on her Website.

http://www.winterbalefire.com/

SEAN CASTEEL

Sean is a freelance journalist who has been writing about UFOs, alien abduction, and many other paranormal subjects since 1989. His writing has appeared in *UFO Magazine*, Tim Beckley's *UFO Universe*, *FATE Magazine*, *Mysteries Magazine*, and *Open Minds Magazine*, among others.

Sean has written or contributed to more than 30 books for Global Communications and Inner Light Publications, all of which are available from Amazon.com. His books include *The Heretic's UFO Guidebook*, which analyzes a selection of Gnostic Christian writings and their relationship to the UFO phenomenon, and *Signs and Symbols of the Second Coming*, in which he interviews several religious and paranormal experts about how prophecies of the Second Coming of Christ may be fulfilled.

http://www.amazon.com/author/seancasteel

JESSICA FERRI

Jessica is a writer based in Brooklyn, New York. Her work has appeared in *The New Yorker's Book Bench*, *The Economist*, *Yahoo!*, *The Daily Beast*, *Time Out New York*, *Literary Hub*, *The Barnes and Noble Review*, and more.

Her favorite writers are Virginia Woolf, Thomas Bernhard, Penelope Mortimer, and J.D. Salinger. Other passions include horror movies, *The Addams Family*, *Dateline NBC*, Alfred Hitchcock, the paranormal, and cemeteries.

http://www.jessicaferri.com/

BOB FOUNTAIN

As an investigator and evidence analyst with Spectral Tech, a paranormal investigative group that serves the surrounding Memphis area, Bob and the team try to help their clients find answers while helping to educate them about the paranormal in the process.

As a special projects manager primarily involved in process engineering, and because documentation and analysis is paramount to serious investigations, Bob was drawn to take more than a passing interest and become actively involved in the study of different paranormal phenomena. He has a bachelor's degree in applied organizational management, and a bachelor's in metaphysical science from the University of Metaphysics. Bob is also an ordained minister/metaphysical practitioner with the International Metaphysical Ministry.

http://www.spectraltech.org/

KAREN FRAZIER

Karen is a psychic medium and cohost of *Paranormal Underground Radio*. She is the author of *Avalanche of Spirits: The Ghosts of Wellington*, *Dancing With the Afterlife*, and *Pioneer Spirits: Investigating the Haunted Lewis County Historical Museum*.

Karen holds a bachelor's and master's in metaphysical science from the University of Metaphysics, as well as a Ph.D. in metaphysical parapsychology from the University of Sedona. She is an ordained minister/metaphysical practitioner with the International Metaphysical Ministry and an Usui Reiki Master/Teacher. She has completed courses in energy healing, including quantum touch, crystal healing, sound healing, and aromatherapy.

http://www.authorkarenfrazier.com/

WILLIE WINDWALKER GIBSON

Willie is a shaman and supernatural consultant. He works by himself, as well as with his wife, Schmon.

He belongs to the Paranormal Clergy and Dominion Ministries. Willie is the author of two books detailing his 50-year journey in the paranormal, *The Shaman Windwalker* and *Soul Warriors*.

Willie has appeared on A&E's *Cursed: The Bell Witch* (2015) and CMTs *Most Shocking Ghosts* (2004). He also hosted his own public access show for 12 years, called *Spiritual Gifts and Wonders*, based in his hometown of Louisville, Kentucky. He also has his own group of sensitives, called Soul Warriors, who are based all over the US.

http://www.shamanwindwalker.com/

LOUISA OAKLEY GREEN

An award-winning journalist and science writer, Louisa became interested in paranormal phenomena more than 20 years ago when she met her psychic husband, Stephen. The *Huffington Post* included her book *Sightseeing in the Undiscovered Country: Tales Retold by a Psychic Bystander* on its list of Best Independent Books of 2016. The book also was a Finalist in the National Indie Excellence Awards and Winner of the Indie Reader Discovery Awards.

The former skeptic has worked as a newspaper reporter, public relations manager, and creative director. A University of South Carolina journalism graduate, Louisa also studied science for medical writing in New Jersey and traditional astrology in London. She is currently working on a graduate degree at Drew University. She previously published one other book, *Loitering at the Gate to Eternity: Memoirs of a Psychic Bystander*. Her work and interests maintain a curiosity-inspired balance between science and mysticism.

http://www.psychicbystander.com/

CHERYL KNIGHT-WILSON

Cheryl is editor-in-chief of *Paranormal Underground* magazine and producer of *Paranormal Underground Radio*. She has more than 20 years of experience as a professional writer and editor and has published hundreds of articles on topics ranging from advanced technology to paranormal investigation.

Cheryl's previous magazine experience includes roles as senior and managing editor for several business publications.

https://paranormalunderground.net/

MICHELLE M. PILLOW

Michelle is a *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author writing in many fiction genres, including the Dragon-Shifter series *Dragon Lords* and *Captured by a Dragon-Shifter* and the mischievously magical *Warlocks MacGregor*. A skeptical believer, she has a fascination with anything paranormal.

Michelle loves to travel and try new things, whether it's a paranormal investigation of an old Vaudeville theater or climbing Mayan temples in Belize. She has a BGS in history/business with an English minor and a photography degree. She is the co-owner of www.TheRavenBooks.com.

http://michellepillow.com/

TYLER TICHELAAR, PH.D.

Tyler is the author of *The Children of Arthur* series, beginning with *Arthur's Legacy* and including *Lilith's Love*, which is largely a sequel to *Dracula*. His scholarly nonfiction works include *King Arthur's Children: A Study in Fiction and Tradition* and *The Gothic Wanderer: From Transgression to Redemption*.

http://www.gothicwanderer.com/

http://www.childrenofarthur.com/

KRYSTLE VERMES

Krystle is a long-time paranormal enthusiast and professional writer with a bachelor's degree in print journalism. When she isn't composing pieces for her own paranormal blog, GetSpooked.net, she's recording her popular podcast, *All Day Paranormal*.

http://getspooked.net/

CHAD WILSON

A freelance writer, Chad is the publisher of *Paranormal Underground* magazine. His interest in the paranormal led to the creation of www.ParanormalUnderground.net.

Chad has investigated with East Tennessee Paranormal Research Society and counts Waverly Hills Sanatorium, the Villisca Axe Murder House, Bobby Mackey's Music World, the Queen Mary, Queen Anne Hotel, Hotel Alex Johnson, and private residences among his investigations.

https://paranormalunderground.net/ ◆

Do you have a dream you would like to have interpreted in Paranormal Underground magazine? Email editor@paranormalunderground.net with a detailed description of your dream, and we will interpret it for you. Dream submissions can be anonymous, and we'll send you the interpretation back via email.

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EDITORIAL

PUBLISHER
Chad Wilson

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF
Cheryl Knight-Wilson
editor@paranormalunderground.net

SCIENCE EDITOR
J.D. Harrison

CONTRIBUTORS
Theresa Argie
Winter Balefire
Sean Casteel
Bob Fountain
Jessica Ferri
Karen Frazier
Willie Windwalker Gibson
Louisa Oakley Green
Michelle M. Pillow
Tyler Tichelaar, Ph.D.
Krystle Vermes

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Acknowledging Personal Paranormal Experiences

Most people interested in the paranormal seem to have that "one event" in their lives that sent them down the path of learning more about unexplainable events. Whether it was seeing a dead relative as a child, coming across Bigfoot in the woods, or seeing strange lights in the sky, something significant helped form their curiosity and got them started on a journey of discovery about the paranormal.

Chad Wilson, Publisher

When I first became interested in paranormal phenomena, that "one" stand-out experience didn't seem to apply to me. Or so I thought at the time. Recent recollections have changed my mind about that.

Over the past few years, I've remembered some things that I experienced when I was a child. Why I had forgotten about them, I don't know. Maybe I thought they were too fantastical or unbelievable. But, for whatever reason, these memories have emerged. I'd like to share them with you here.

There are two experiences, in particular, that stand out. As a young child, I was followed by a strange, diminutive being in and around two of my Mississippi homes. It was short and dark, and it almost looked like a small shadow person. Thinking back, I believe it might have been a nature spirit. I have no evidence for this belief. It's just a feeling.

And, as a child, I had a dog named Dutchess who I felt I could communicate with telepathically. All I had to do was think a thought, like *Come here, Dutchess* ... and she would come to me, even if she was in the other room.

So, whether I blocked these experiences out purposely or just forgot is up for debate. I honestly never put any weight behind these experiences other than to think they were strange. This makes me wonder how many other people forget about unusual experiences.

How many people have had something paranormal happen in their lives and just forgotten about it? Maybe forgetting or blocking it out makes the world a little less crazy. Or maybe it just takes time to realize, process, and come to grips with events that we think others might not understand.

Ultimately, each person's journey is their own, including what they wish to acknowledge or not in their life. While you or I might think it would be detrimental to keep such things buried and hidden, some might not be able to cope with bringing their paranormal experiences out into the open.

But when people do decide to share their paranormal experiences with others, it's my hope that they are treated with respect and an open mind.◆

March 23–26
TransWorld's Halloween & Attractions Show
America's Center
St. Louis, Missouri
http://www.haashow.com/

March 31–April 2
Oregon Ghost Conference
Seaside Civic & Convention Center
Seaside, Oregon
http://www.oregonghostconference.com/

April 1–2
Gift of Light Expo
Cuyahoga County Fairgrounds
Berea, Ohio
http://www.giftoflightexpo.com/

April 21–22
Salem Con 3
Hawthorne Hotel
Salem, Massachusetts
http://www.mghparanormal.com/

April 14–16
Ozark Mountain UFO Conference
Best Western Inn of the Ozarks Convention Center
Eureka Springs, Arkansas
http://ozarkufoconference.com/

April 22
Aurora Alien Encounter Conference
MD Resort
Aurora, Texas
http://roswellbooks.com/aurora/

April 29
MUFON Erie UFO Conference
Erie Bayfront Convention Center
Erie, Pennsylvania
http://mufonpa.com/wp1/?page_id=925

April 29–May 6
SpiriCruise III: The Ghostly Gallivant
Cruising from Orlando, Florida, on the Carnival Magic
http://www.spiricruise.com/

May 5–7
Pennsylvania Bigfoot Camping Adventure
Benner's Meadow Run Camping & Cabins
Farmington, Pennsylvania
http://www.pabigfootcampingadventure.com/

May 12–14
Provincetown Paracon
Provincetown Inn
Provincetown, Massachusetts
https://provincetownparacon.com/

May 13
New Jersey Paraunity Expo
Woodbridge High School
Woodbridge, New Jersey
http://www.newjerseyparaunityexpo.com/

May 18–21
McMenamins UFO Festival
Hotel Oregon
McMinnville, Oregon
http://ufofest.com/

May 19–21
A Haunting in the Desert
2nd and Safford Street
Tombstone, Arizona
http://www.beelieveparanormal.com/events-.html

May 20
Ohio Bigfoot Conference
Salt Fork State Park Lodge and Conference Center
Lore City, Ohio
http://ohiobigfootconference.org/

E-mail your paranormal event to editor@paranormalunderground.net.◆

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Contact:
Cheryl Knight-Wilson
714-646-4197
editor@paranormalunderground.net

ART DIRECTION

ART DIRECTOR
Chad Wilson

DESIGN AND LAYOUT
Cheryl Knight-Wilson

ON THE COVER
Mississippi Paranormal Research Institute team members: Madison Childers, Jamie Childers, Kayla Crawford, Wayne Childers, and David Childers

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editor@paranormalunderground.net

Most Haunted Sites

In this month's "Paranormal Insider" column, we've asked our writers: "What is the most haunted location you've ever visited or investigated?" Here's what they had to say ...

* * * * *

"For me, it would have to be the Lizzie Borden House in Fall River, Massachusetts. This modern-day bed-and-breakfast was the site of the 1892 murders of Andrew and Abby Borden, which remain unsolved.

"Walking around the first floor of the house was relatively simple; it felt like an average New England home. However, the second floor was a totally different story. You feel like you're being watched from every angle and someone is always peeking around the corner. I became physically ill and disoriented in the room that belonged to the Bordens' maid, Bridget Sullivan, and had to leave the area."

— Krystle Vermes, writer, blogger, and podcaster

"My own house. I've been living here for about six years, and many things scared me as a child: nightmares, shadows, and one night I even felt someone touching my neck when I was lying in my bed.

"However, it helped me to know how to deal with the supernatural and become a better witch, and now I can even sense when any spirit is near and protect my family from it or take advice from dead family members that speak to me in my dreams."

— Alan D.D., author, journalist, blogger, and solitary witch

"The most haunted place I ever visited was the Southern Mansion in Cape May, New Jersey. The stories that I heard about that place made my skin crawl. I think the *Ghost Hunters* team may have investigated it. Another place is the Eastern State Penitentiary in Pennsylvania."

— Josie Varga, author of *A Call From Heaven: Personal Accounts of Deathbed Visits, Angelic Visions, and Crossing to the Other Side*

"I have been to several places that have provided both electronically captured data and personal experiences, but Waverly Hills Sanatorium is by far the most active haunted location I have encountered thus far."

— Bob Fountain, Spectral Tech

"Old Cowtown Museum in Wichita, Kansas. This large museum consists of several buildings to create an Old West town. Some of the buildings were relocated to the site and still contain all the original furnishings, including the original home of Marshall Murdock, the editor of the *Wichita City Eagle* newspaper and whose daughter, Love-en-Tangle, died as a young child.

"It's said that when the cats are hiding, you're more likely to see hauntings."

— Michelle M. Pillow, *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author

"I've had quite a few experience on the Queen Mary is Long Beach, California. On one occasion I was on a tour by the pool area that is no longer in use. I was lagging behind taking in everything when I felt a tug on my purse, like when a child is trying to get your attention. This happened multiple times in that area.

"I've also heard phantom footsteps on the deck and children playing when none were around."

— Winter Balefire, author, poet, occultist, and paranormal researcher

"If we are basing the answer on experiences while there, then the Queen Anne Hotel in San Francisco, California. Hotel Alex Johnson also comes to mind, as that is where I believe a spirit tried to occupy my body. I would also include Waverly Hills Sanatorium up there, but more for the atmosphere than anything."

— Chad Wilson, publisher, *Paranormal Underground*

"There are two locations that I have investigated that I would say were the most haunted. One of those was the home of an individual we helped who was experiencing a haunting. That case took place in Springfield, Massachusetts.

"The other one that was not only high with paranormal activity, but also where I had probably the most frightening experience was on the Star of India in San Diego, California. I was investigating the ship with my good friends Colleen Rose and Maritza Skandunas of San Diego Ghost Hunters. We were in the map room area on the main deck of the ship. It was only the three of us on the ship, and the gate to the ramp was closed and locked. Only the security guard had the key to let us back off at 3 a.m.

"We were trying to make contact using the Ovilus with the spirit of someone who was believed to have been murdered on the ship. When we asked who murdered them, a name was given through the Ovilus. At that moment, we could feel the atmosphere in the room change. It became heavy, and the three of us all felt a strong sense of anxiety and anger.

"Then we heard loud, stomping footsteps on the wheel deck above us just as the Ovilus spoke the word 'minion.' And, no, that does not refer to the cute little yellow guys from the movies. Minion is actually an old term used to refer to one of the demonic followers of Lucifer. It is also used to refer to a living person who is a worshiper or who carried out terrible acts in the name of Satan. The heavy footsteps paced back and forth, and the more we asked about the murder, the more intense the feelings and the footsteps became — to the point where we, at least I, wanted to leave the ship.

But the three of us stayed. And Maritza, who is a sensitive, put up a "spiritual bubble" of protection for us. At that moment, the footsteps above us stopped. We immediately went outside and up to the wheel deck to check to see if someone had gotten aboard, but there was no one there. But there was a strong smell of vomit, even though the deck was clean and secure and there was nothing there that could have made the noises. It was a very intense and frightening experience."

"Then we heard loud, stomping footsteps on the wheel deck above us just as the Ovilus spoke the word 'minion.'"

— Jack Kenna, SPIRITS of New England

"As a paranormal researcher, I have been blessed to visit many historical locations throughout California and out-of-state that are deemed to be haunted or have paranormal occurrences. Not all supernaturally active places are haunted, as in my opinion in order to be classified as such, the phenomena at that site has to have a significant historical tie or connection.

"Waverly Hills Sanatorium is one specific ghostly-inhabited location that will make you awestruck the minute your eyes visualize its looming presence. It was once considered the most-equipped Tuberculosis sanatorium in the country. While rumors say that over 60,000 people died in its confines due to the relentless "white plague" that ominously struck during the 1800s and early 1900s, reality places its death toll statistic at less than 5,000 individuals over 70 years or so.

"In 2009, I had the opportunity to conduct an overnight investigation at Waverly Hills with the Ghost Research Society. For eight hours, I experienced unwavering amounts of both residual and intelligent paranormal activity catering to all of my five human senses. Perhaps, most profound were the ongoing morphing and dematerializations of humanoid shadow forms. We are not just talking about one or two ethereal forms, but several moving in and out of walls and through doorways. It's absolutely incredible!

"Known for its several ghostly claims, this Louisville-based location is for sure a mecca for any aspiring or experienced paranormal investigator."

— Nicole Strickland, San Diego Paranormal Research Society ◆

Pushing it to the Limit:
Mississippi Paranormal Research Institute

By Cheryl Knight

As a teenager, David Childers first encountered the paranormal on his father's property. He saw a full-body apparition. That initial incident led him into a life-time pursuit of paranormal investigation and evidence gathering.

Today, David runs the Mississippi Paranormal Research Institute (MPRI) of Vicksburg, Mississippi, which was formed in 2000. Team members possess a wide range of personal experiences, religious beliefs, and paranormal theories, but all have the same mission: help families in distress from things that go bump in the night.

"The individuals on our team are knowledgeable and professional," said David. "And we use all means necessary to collect and dissect evidence to examine all of the facts in the cases our clients bring to us."

David and the team are currently filming for their new Webisode series called *Mississippi Para Chasers*, which follows the team as it investigates Mississippi's most haunted locations. The series release date is scheduled for late-2017.

David recently talked with *Paranormal Underground* magazine about his paranormal team, investigative equipment, the methodologies his team uses, and some of their most unforgettable cases.

With more than 15 years of experience investigating the paranormal, David has also acted in several horror films.

* * * * *

Q: Please talk a little bit about yourself, both personally and professionally.

David: I am cofounder of MPRI and lead investigator of the Shondra May Cold Case File. I also had the pleasure to investigate with Patrick Burns from truTV's *Haunting Evidence* and Travel Channel's *Paranormal Challenge*; Keith Age from the Booth Brothers film's on the Syfy Channel; and Kevin Betzer and Randy Hardy from Syfy's *Deep South Paranormal*, among others. I have also been featured on several paranormal TV shows, including *Ghost Asylum* and *Finding Bigfoot*.

I also enjoy photography and acting and am one of the main characters in the horror movies *The Documentary of OzBo* and the upcoming *Ringmaster* by Twisted Carnival, which will be featured on Event Screamer's Twisted Carnival.

MPRI's mission includes capturing paranormal evidence and helping families deal with paranormal activity. Pictured above are MPRI team members (left to right) Kayla Crawford, Billy Thompson, Madison Childers, David Childers, and Jamie Childers.

Q: How did you become interested in the paranormal and actively investigating it?

David: When I was 13 years of age I saw a full-body apparition by the woodline of my father's property, and it went on from there. Living on haunted property pushed me to the next level.

Q: What interests you most about the paranormal?

David: Everything from ghosts, UFOs, cryptozoology, and urban legends. I want to know the truth, like all of us do, and show the skeptics that we are not crazy.

> "... WE HEARD DOORS SLAMMING, CAPTURED EVPS, AND HAD GUESTS AND INVESTIGATORS BEING TOUCHED BY SPIRITS."

Q: Whose work in the paranormal field do you respect the most and why?

David: Everyone who has a passion for this field and pushing it to the limit to collect evidence.

Q: Tell us about your paranormal investigative team and its mission.

David: Our mission is to help families who are in need of answers about the paranormal activity they encounter. We also give back to the community by doing things such as fundraisers for homeless families and disabled military members, as well as other community projects.

We are a nonprofit organization that loves to help out the best way we can. The core MPRI team consists of David Childers, Wayne Childers, Jamie Childers, Gene Hamil, Madison Childers, Kayla Crawford, and Billy Thompson.

Q: What different types of locations have you investigated?

David: We've investigated all types of locations, including haunted hospitals, businesses, private resi-

→

David and MPRI have caught paranormal evidence during their investigations, including capturing shadow people on film and EVPs on digital voice recorders.

dences, and antebellum homes. We also investigate different urban legends. We are open to all paranormal adventures!

Q: What equipment do you usually take with you on an investigation?

David: We use digital voice recorders, K-II Meters, Mel Meters, the EchoVox, Furbies, REM Pods, night vision cameras, and a Nikon 3300. We also investigate with physics and empaths.

Q: What methodologies do you use during investigations?

David: We have rules on every investigation that we do, such as documenting all personal experiences on paper and film.

Plus, we give respect to everyone involved in the investigations, even the spirits.

Q: What case will you remember the most and why?

David: The biggest one was Kuhn Hospital here in Vicksburg. We caught shadow people on film, captured multiple EVPs, had personal experiences, and a few of our investigators got physically attacked.

Also, during our investigation of the McNutt House in Vicksburg, we heard doors slamming, captured EVPs, and had guests and investigators being touched by spirits.

We've also had cases where we've seen full-body apparitions.

Q: What is the most compelling evidence of the paranormal that you have captured?

David: The most compelling and hardcore evidence is the video we captured at McNutt House of the cabinet door slamming, which was featured on the Biography Channel and A&E, as well as the shadow figure we caught at Kuhn Hospital.

Q: Talk about common misconceptions about the paranormal field that you've encountered?

David: A lot of people should open up their minds to the paranormal, because it's there.

Q: What locations do you have on your wish list to investigate?

David: There are so many! The Queen Mary, Myrtles Plantation, and the Colosseum in Rome.

Q: What words of wisdom would you have for amateur ghost hunters investigating for the first time?

David: Always find a team in your location before for training! Get experience first before going out on your own, because you never know what you might get into.

Q: What else should our readers know about you and your team?

David: We are here to help; all you have to do is call.

* * * * *

To learn more about Mississippi Paranormal Research Institute, visit www.facebook.com/DeltaParanormalProject and www.twistedcarnival.com. ◆

Oregon Ghost Conference
March 31, 2017 - April 2, 2017

Seaside Civic and Convention Center
415 First Avenue, Seaside, OR 97138
http://oregonghostconference.com

About the OGC:

The 6th Annual Oregon Ghost Conference will take place on March 31–April 2, 2017 at the Seaside Civic and Convention Center. The Oregon Ghost Conference is the Northwest's largest paranormal convention and attracts visitors from all across the West Coast and beyond. We have a jam-packed weekend planned filled with speakers, courses, tours, parties, and so much more.

Join us for a weekend of "ghosts at the coast" to connect with and learn from some of the top paranormal experts in our area. Do not miss this great event!

$5 admission to vendor and speaker areas for the entire weekend!

For More Information/Contact:

Main Website: http://www.oregonghostconference.com

OGC on Facebook: https://www.facebook.com/oregonghostconference/

Ryan Sprague Investigates ... ALIEN PHENOMENA

By Cheryl Knight

After a UFO sighting when he was 12, Ryan Sprague was captivated with UFO phenomena. And he hasn't stopped researching the topic since. His journey led him to investigate some of the most intriguing UFO cases in history.

Ryan has been featured on ABC News, Fox News, and The Science Channel as a UFO expert, and he is a regular on The Travel Channel's *Mysteries at the Museum*. He has written for several paranormal magazines, including *Omni*, *Open Minds Magazine*, *Phenomena Magazine*, and *UFO Truth Magazine, and he* is the co-host for both the Into the Fray & UFOmodPOD podcasts. His first book, *Somewhere in the Skies: A Human Approach to an Alien Phenomenon*, is now available through Richard Dolan Press.

Ryan recently spoke to us about his investigations into UFO cases, as well as the insights revealed in his new book about UFO experiencers.

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Investigative journalist Ryan Sprague enjoys traveling and finding some of the world's weirdest places.

Q: Tell us about yourself.

Ryan: I am a professional playwright and screenwriter in New York City. When I'm not doing that, I work freelance for many online and print magazines, with a focus on the UFO topic.

I also really enjoy traveling and finding some of the world's weirdest places and hearing from locals about hyper-local lore. Stories fascinate me more than any facts or data ever could.

Q: Explain your work as a freelance journalist specializing in the topic of UFOs.

Ryan: I began my journalistic endeavors very young when I would interview people in my hometown of Syracuse, New York. I still remember at age 13 interviewing a Vietnam veteran about a UFO sighting he had on a Navy vessel along with his entire crew. It really struck me.

I would write essays to myself about UFO cases. I'd hop on America Online and discuss UFO material in chatrooms. This was all paving the way for me to finally start writing for several magazines on the topic of UFOs. *Open Minds Magazine* was the first, and it really helped me hone my skills as an interviewer and a researcher.

I worked for them for four years and covered everything from UFO sightings to crop circles, Area 51 to the

Pictured above, UFO researcher Peter Robbins (left) and Ryan Sprague (right) explain the Rendlesham Forest Incident to a Danish UFO investigative group.

strange deaths of UFO researchers. It was a blast, and I met so many interesting people along the way.

Q: How did you become interested in UFOs?

Ryan: My interest stemmed from a sighting I had in 1995. I was 12 years old, and I was on a weekend getaway with my parents to the Saint Lawrence River, which runs all through upstate New York and separates The New York border from Canada.

I was fishing off a dock one night at our river-side motel, listening to Green Day on my headphones, and I noticed three white lights reflecting in the water. I looked up, and there was this massive triangular formation about 300 feet above me. There's this fuzzy orange/red sphere in the center of the formation. I couldn't see any type of structure, but I also couldn't see the stars behind this formation.

> "I LOOKED UP, AND THERE WAS THIS MASSIVE TRIANGULAR FORMATION ABOUT 300 FEET ABOVE ME."

I ripped my headphones off and my Discman went flying down the dock. I was expecting to hear this thing above me, but there was nothing. All I could hear was the water hitting the dock. And I could feel this low vibration running behind my ears, down my neck, and into my chest.

I yelled for my Dad to come out, and he also saw this thing slowly disappear off in the distance. The next morning we told the motel owner about what I'd seen, and he said that UFOs had often been reported hovering over the river at night.

This corroborated to me that something out of the ordinary had definitely happened over the water the night prior. What exactly it was, man-made or otherwise, absolutely terrified me. I had vivid dreams about the sighting for years after and became obsessed with the topic of UFOs, checking out book after book about it from my local library. This inevitably led to my journey to continue searching for answers to the UFO mystery, no matter if I liked the answers or not.

Q: What are some of the most startling facts you've uncovered about UFOs during your research?

Ryan: I'd say the most startling facts are the sheer amount of ordinary people claiming everything from simple lights in the sky all the way up to contact and possible abduction experiences with non-human entities.

After interviewing hundreds of individuals with every type of background you can possibly imagine, I have no doubt something truly strange is happening. And while

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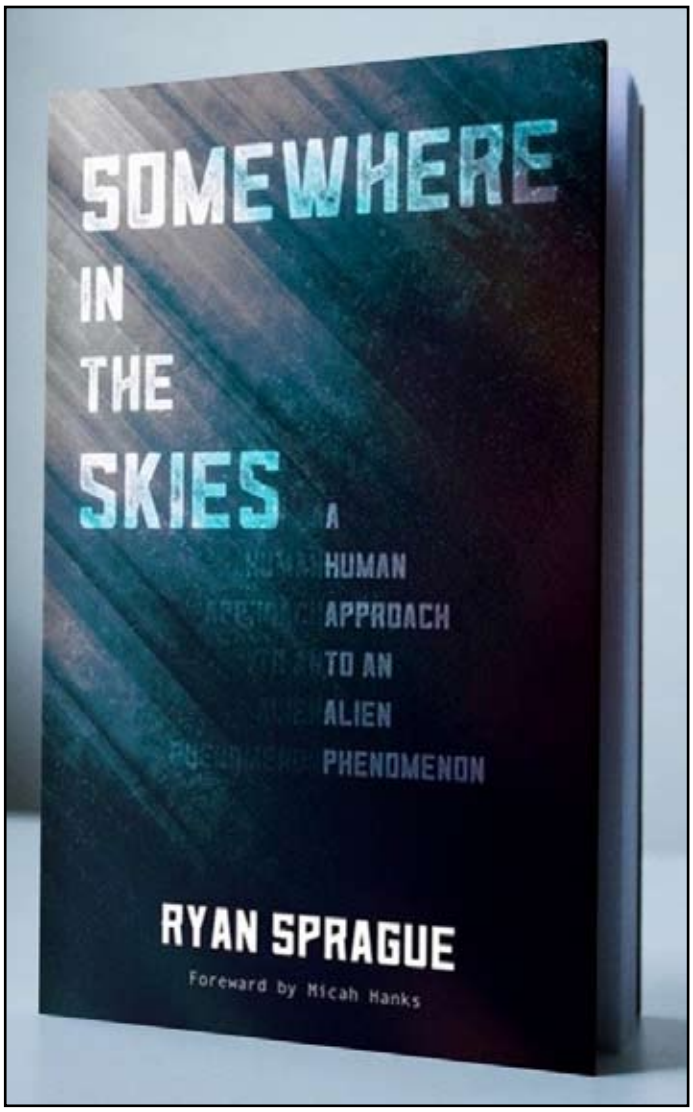


Through detailed testimony from credible witnesses and insight from those in the psychological, academic, and scientific fields, *Somewhere in the Skies: A Human Approach to an Alien Phenomenon* is a personal journey that also weaves together a story of stories.

many nations and countries have come forward with their official documents pertaining to UFO investigations, the United States remains rather tight-lipped on its findings, save the early Sign, Grudge, and Blue Book projects.

I have no doubt they are still investigating these more credible cases that are occurring. And the fact that we aren't hearing about it makes me believe something truly vital is happening behind that officialdom curtain. And while it may be exciting to someday peer behind that curtain, it also scares the hell out of me at what may peer back.

Q: What else would you like our readers to know about you or your research/investigations?

Ryan: I take a very human approach to my journalistic research. While I highly respect the scientific approach to UFOs and possibly related phenomena, I like to be in the room with those who have had experiences and hear what they believe it was that they witnessed and experienced. They are the backbone to the data, statistics, dates, times, and history of the UFO phenomenon. And that, in my opinion, needs to be addressed and analyzed in order to research the phenomenon from every angle.

You can truly connect UFOs to everything: science, philosophy, theology, sociology, psychology, and so on. So let's hear from everyone and try to find some sort of cohesion — a method of sorts to look these phenomena in the face and say, "We're watching. We're listening. What do you want?"

I can't pretend to have an answer on how to do that ... but I'm going to keep hearing these people's stories and recording them to the best of my ability.

Q: Whose work/research in ufology do you most admire?

Ryan: Some of my current favorites would have to be the work of Greg Bishop. Bishop, known best for his wonderful book *Project Beta* is looking into a deeply fascinating and cerebral approach to the UFO phenomenon, something he calls the Co-Creation Hypothesis. Could we possibly be manifesting UFO phenomena through our own conditioned perceptions and beliefs?

This is something Dr. Jaques Vallee teased in many of his books, and I am excited to see the work that Bishop is doing on this theory. What about our own minds could manifest these strange objects in our skies? Only time will tell. But I'll be there every step of the way to ponder with him.

I also highly respect the extremely detailed research currently being done by Erica Lukes. She has climbed the ranks to become one of today's most responsible researchers. In what can often be a boy's club, she has time and time again shown that gender means nothing when it comes to diligence, intelligence, and rigorous investigation. I look forward to what she brings to the table next, especially with her research into the orange orb phenomenon that seems to be prevalent in a majority of current UFO reports.

Q: Tell us about your book, *Somewhere in the Skies: A Human Approach to an Alien Phenomenon.*

Ryan: The book is two years of research and interviews

with some of the most credible and down-to-earth people I came across. It is a journey through their own words on how their UFO or contact/abduction experiences impacted their lives.

Ordinary people are seeing extraordinary things in our skies. And while reports of UFOs and their possible occupants are littered with dates, times, and descriptions, they rarely focus on those who have actually experienced them. How have these dramatic and often traumatic events affected those involved?

> "Ordinary people are seeing extraordinary things in our skies."

Could both the positive and negative implications, whether subtle or revelatory, further our knowledge of what exactly these phenomena represent? I attempt to answer these and many other questions throughout the book. And I raise more questions to be had, keeping the conversation on these topics relevant, fresh, and progressive.

Q: What would our readers be surprised to find out about you?

Ryan: When I'm not writing about UFOs, I'm actually a professional playwright in New York City. I also spent two years on the road acting for the National Theater for Arts & Education, performing a French production of Cyrano de Bergerac.

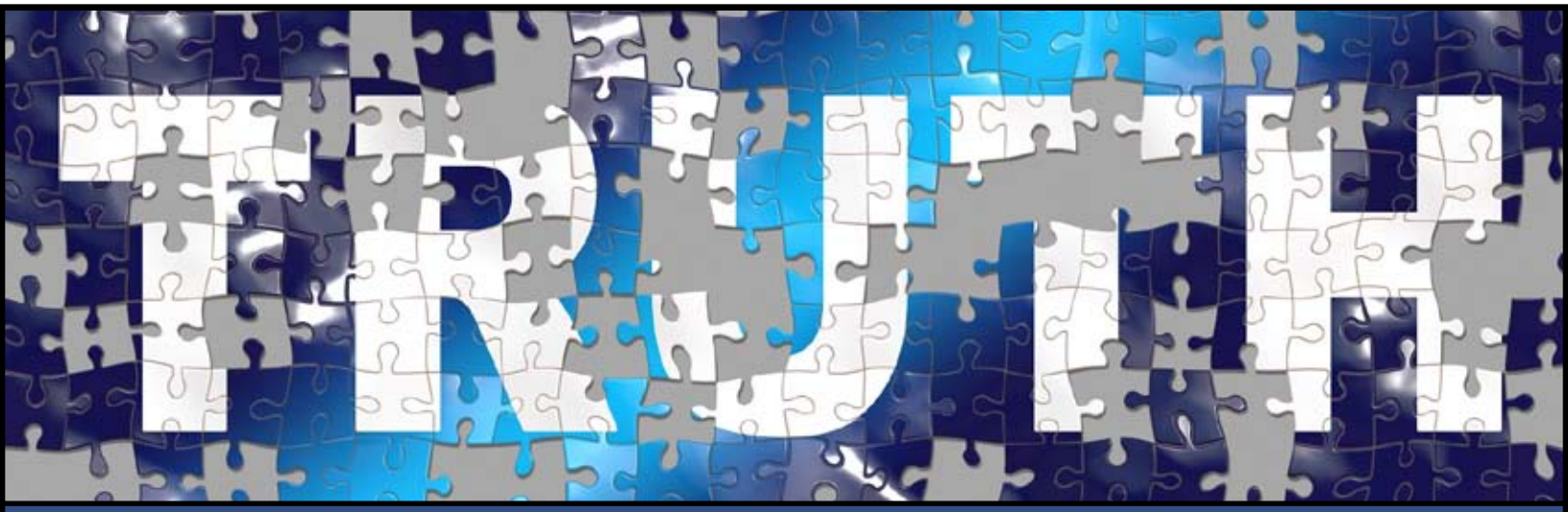
Q: What research or projects do you have planned for the future?

Ryan: I will be presenting my first lecture on UFOs at the 2017 UFO Congress in Scottsdale, Arizona, this February. My lecture is titled "UFOs vs. Ufology: The Convergence of Experience & Study."

It will reflect on both aspects of ufology and attempt to bridge the gap between those having the experiences and those who study it.

All info of times, dates, and other speakers can be found at http://ufocongress.com/. All other UFO-related work of mine can be found at http://www.somewhereintheskies.com/.

Other than that, I'm hard at work on several scripts both for the stage and the screen. All my playwriting and screenwriting endeavors can be found at http://www.ryandsprague.com/.◆



ARE YOU A TRUTHSEEKER?

http://truthseekerhighway.com/
http://truthseekerforum.com/

Visiting the Dark Side of the Moon:

UFOs, Mediumship, and the Paranormal

By Sean Casteel, spectralvision.wordpress.com

At one point in the history of America, the belief in spiritualism was as strong and as controversial as the belief in UFOs is today. And a demonstrable parallel can be drawn between the two topics, which even seem to attract some of the same people across the various paranormal research fields — more so in recent years as increasing numbers come to accept the reality of UFOs as being at least partially of a paranormal or supernatural nature.

Spiritualism flourished beginning in the mid-19th Century, and for many decades it held a fascinated general public in its thrall. Whether one was a believer or a determined skeptic, everyone had an opinion as to the reality of contacting the dead, with many others devoting their energies to the tireless debunking of fraudulent mediums who the skeptics thought were scamming the public and taking their hard-earned money deceitfully.

What is Spiritualism? The most fundamental belief of the Spiritualists is that the soul survives physical death and that certain departed souls can communicate with the living. This communication is achieved through the agency of a medium, a man or woman who claims the distinct ability to speak with those who have passed away.

Mediumship traces its roots back to the ancient shamanistic traditions and is an extension of many priestly traditions as well. Most Native American tribes had at least one shaman or "medicine man" among them who would go into a specially prepared teepee and enter into a trance state (sometimes in a drug-induced state) in order to contact the ancestors of the tribe. Those standing outside the teepee could see mysterious shadows and figures

moving about inside the lodge which could not have been the shaman. His hands were often bound and his posture secure — much like in a séance off the reservation.

A true medium can be a conduit for numerous Spiritualist phenomena, including prophecy (i.e., the Oracle of Delphi in ancient Greece). He or she may also be capable of clairvoyance and clairaudience, possess the gift of speaking in tongues, and provide healing by the laying on of hands. They may see visions and enter easily into a trance. A medium can also summon spirits and guides from the world of the dead and even cause the voices of the departed to speak aloud to a gathering of the living at a séance.

Distinguished British physicist and chemist Sir William Crookes, around the turn of the 20th Century,

categorized certain physical manifestations of spiritualistic activities. These include:

- The movement of heavy bodies with contact but without mechanical exertion.
- The phenomena of percussive and other similar sounds.
- Movements of heavy substances when at a distance from the medium.
- The rising of tables and chairs off the ground without contact with any person.
- The levitation of human beings.
- The movement of various small articles without contact with any person.
- Luminous appearances.
- The appearance of hands, either self-luminous or visible, by ordinary light.
- Direct (automatic) writing.
- Phantom forms and faces.
- There is also the possibility of special instances that seem to point to the agency of a superior intelligence, as well as miscellaneous occurrences of a complex character.

All of this sounds like a motherlode of the strange and bizarre and calls to mind many of the claims made by UFO abductees. This relationship between Spiritualism and ufology has often been noted by Timothy Green Beckley, the CEO of the publishing houses Global Communications and Inner Light Publications. While Beckley is widely known as Mr. UFO, he has also long been interested in spiritualistic and occult matters and has republished classic works in the field.

The latest such offering from Beckley is *We Can Awaken the Dead: Evidence of an Afterlife Now!* It consists mainly of the personal journey to Spiritualist truth made by Vice Admiral W. Usborne Moore, a British naval officer who publicly advocated the notion that we can communicate with our departed loved ones.

Modern Spiritualism

Moore began as a skeptic. He talks of reading a book, at the recommendation of an acquaintance, by the aforementioned William Crookes, called *Researches into the Phenomena of Modern Spiritualism*," which Moore said had led many people to the subject. Readers marveled that Crookes' credentials as a scientist did not deter him from expounding at length on the existence of "forces exercised by invisible intelligences."

Moore decided to test the waters himself and went to visit a clairvoyant named Mrs. Crompton in Portsmouth, England, in 1904. "She clairvoyantly saw a spirit form near me that answered very nearly to 'Iola' as I remember her," Moore wrote.

The Shaking Teepee Phenomenon is common throughout Native American culture. A shaman will enter a teepee and the shadows of spirits will appear even though the medicine man is bound so that he cannot move about.

Another medium, a Mr. Vango, described Iola to Moore two or three times, giving her name. "These were the first intimations I received of the desire of my relative to get in touch with me," Moore explained.

As time passed and Moore visited other mediums, Iola continued to reach out to Moore.

"To be brief, I found that the deeper I went into the study of Spiritism, the more apparent it became that, whether he wished it or not, man's individuality was not extinguished at death," Moore wrote. "I read books, visited clairvoyants, and attended séances for materialization. Through all of this I was constantly reminded of the existence of a near and dear relative, older than myself, who passed away 37 years ago in the prime of her life. Her continued reappearances could only lead me to one conclusion: I was being guided to a reconsideration of the problem of immortality."

He continued: "At last, I have come to the absolute conviction that what we call 'death' is a mere incident, a door to a higher life that is, in reality, more substantial to the senses we shall hereafter possess than the one we set so much store upon here. The near relative who had proved to me this valuable truth is called in this volume 'Iola,' a spirit name which she herself adopted to avoid the unpleasant complications that may arise as to her identity among those of her friends and relatives who are not educated in Spiritism."

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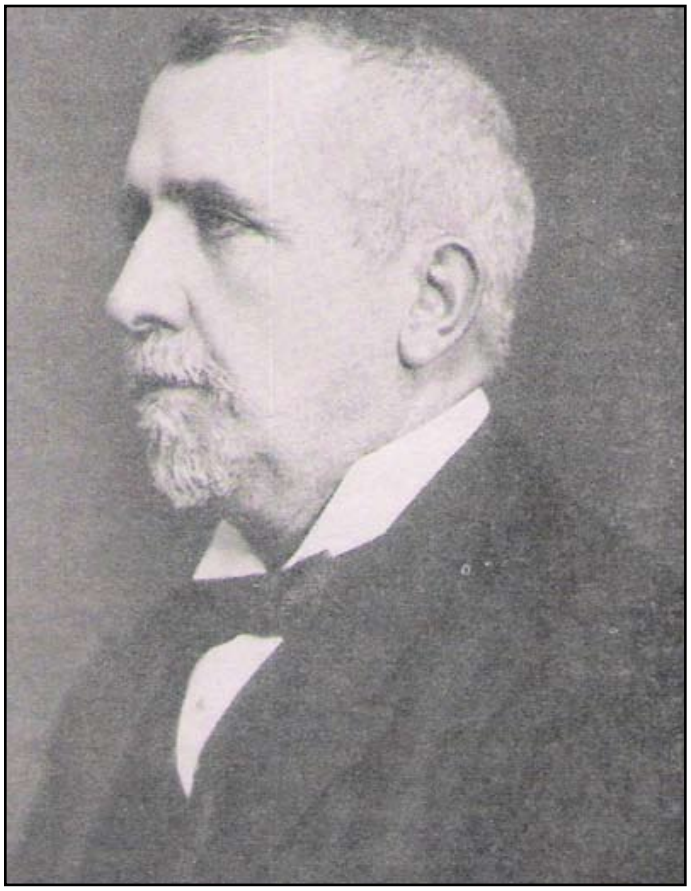


A military man for most of his life, Vice Admiral William Usborne Moore's (March 8, 1849–March 15, 1918) worldview "softened" greatly after being contacted by the spirit of a loved one during a séance.

Thus Moore was drawn to the subject by his lost relative reaching out to him and not the other way around. Iola seemed to reenter his life from the world of the dead completely unbidden and without prompting on Moore's part.

Along with his heartfelt belief in the genuineness of Spiritualism, Moore also took aim at the debunkers.

"Nothing they write has tallied with what I've seen," he declared. "For a concrete instance of the foolish suggestions put forward by these ignorant 'know-it-alls,' I would point to a recent work in which there is a description of how slate-writing is performed."

Slate-writing falls into the category of "physical" Spiritualist phenomena in which a spirit takes chalk in hand and writes messages from beyond on a small slate.

"The writer says the sitter brings his own double slate and the psychic deftly inserts a small piece of chalk previously prepared by being mixed with steel filings," Moore wrote. "While the slate is being held under the table or elsewhere, the psychic moves the chalk by means of a magnet concealed up his sleeve and does it as in mirror writing."

The debunking writer unequivocally says the deceiving medium's use of this method is unassailable fact, but Moore quite pointedly differs.

"This statement of 'fact' is untrue," Moore argued. "Such a thing cannot be done. Even with an electromagnet in open sight it would be impossible to write 20 legible words. With a man sitting near you and watching you, it is not possible to write five legible words without detection."

Nevertheless, Moore admitted, books by debunking authors sold well and perhaps helped the naysayers to climb the social ladder of the time.

"For the majority of educated people are anxious not to be disturbed in their amiable doctrines of a Day of Judgment, and a fiery material hell in store for those who do not agree with them," Moore reasoned.

Readers at this juncture will observe that the way the skeptics behaved during the heyday of Spiritualism is similar to the debunkers today who go out of their way to discredit many UFO experiencers, be they abductees or the much more tainted contactees of the late 40s and 1950s.

Early on in his book, Moore described other physical phenomena he had personally witnessed, which included the materialization of heads and busts of discarnate entities, spirit singing, whispers, and the flight of a musical instrument around the room and over the heads of the sitters, all the while playing a definite tune.

"I saw and heard a number of things that could not be explained by any system of juggling or deception of any sort," Moore wrote.

The Davenport Brothers — The Greatest Physical Mediums of All Time?

Such physical manifestations as Moore described were an everyday occurrence for the Davenport Brothers, a duo of American Spiritualists whose talents were celebrated by none other than Sir Arthur Conan Doyle, the creator of the immortal detective Sherlock Holmes.

Doyle had manufactured a character whose skills as a logician solved many crimes, but Doyle himself was given to more mystical beliefs. His struggle against the magician and escape artist Harry Houdini over the veracity of Spiritualist claims — including that of the Davenports — is well-known. Beckley has published a book (see the Suggested Reading list at the end of this article) dealing with their very public conflict, as well as other strange theories about Houdini's "hidden powers."

Beckley has also published *Dark Séance: The Fabulous Davenport Brothers*, which is in part a reprint of a detailed account of their careers written in the early part of the 20th Century. Their story began in 1846, when the Davenport family was disturbed by what they described as "raps, thumps, loud noises, snaps, cracking noises in the

dead of night." Not knowing how to respond, they simply did nothing.

A few years later, when the famous Fox Sisters began making headlines for experiencing similar things, 10-year-old Elizabeth Davenport declared that if such things happened to anybody, they might as well happen to them. The Davenports gathered around their table, placed their hands upon it, as they had read the Fox Sisters had done, and waited to see what would happen. After a few moments, a movement as of swelling or bulging was felt in the table, then crackling noises, tippings, raps, and, finally, very loud and violent noises.

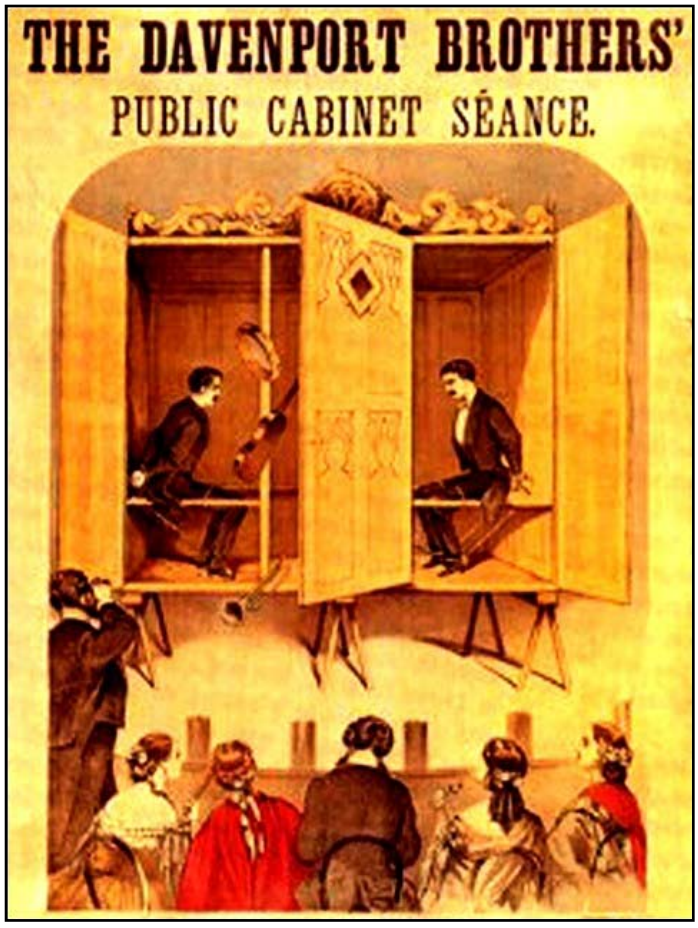
Ira Davenport, five years older than his sister, Elizabeth, was "taken with a violent propensity to write, his hand becoming subject to extraordinary gyrations. These messages were believed to be quite beyond both his mental or physical powers, and contained matters known only to the persons to whom they were addressed, and quite beyond his personal knowledge."

Another incident in this early stage of the Davenports' development involved the knives, forks, and dishes on the breakfast table beginning "to dance around as if suddenly imbued with vitality. In a few moments, the table began to move, tipping up sideways, balancing itself on one leg, and finally rising clear from the floor, floating in the air without the least support and moving in such a way that it was wonderful that the dishes upon it did not slide off and come crashing upon the floor."

Meanwhile, Ira's younger brother, William, had begun to communicate with an entity who said he was not of this Earth. The entity warned them to procure a large table for the better accommodation of those who would be coming from far and near to see these wonders for themselves. The family began to hold regular séances during which the physical manifestations were repeated in front of witnesses. Loud raps were heard; the table answered questions; spectral forms were seen in the flash of a pistol; lights appeared in the upper parts of the room; and musical instruments floated in the air while being played upon above the heads of the company.

The spirits somehow communicated to the Davenports that Ira and William should take their show on the road. They began by touring in Maine and obligingly permitted debunkers to thoroughly examine their equipment and to bind the brothers hand and foot so that no sleight of hand could be perpetrated. In spite of these conditions, the brothers were nevertheless able to conjure mysterious arms and hands that would play musical instruments.

While appearing in Philadelphia, the brothers were met with "violent opposition" from "philosophers," religious bigots, other spiritualists and people spoiling



The Davenport Brothers managed to produce all sorts of phenomena while they were chained in a special spirit cabinet. Musical instruments would play and fly around the room of their "own accord."

for a fight in general. It required 50 policeman to keep order. In spite of this, the brothers still produced the most extraordinary manifestations even before hostile crowds.

They continued to amaze observers and moved on to tour England and Scotland, appearing not only in theaters, but also in private homes. In exclusive drawing rooms in London, they performed before not the "ignorant or the credulous," but a select company that included some of the sharpest minds in England, none of whom could see any method of deception on the part of the Davenport Brothers.

A writer for a London newspaper, *The Morning Post*, who was present for one such private séance, reported — somewhat bewilderedly — that, "Possibly they may be [clever conjurers] or it is possible that some new physical force can be engendered at will to account for what appears on the face of it absolutely unaccountable. All that can be asserted is that the displays to which we have referred took place on the present occasion under conditions and circumstances that preclude the presumption of fraud. Here is a field for the investigation of the scientific world."

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Beckley's *Dark Séance: The Fabulous Davenport Brothers* also includes his own musings on the brothers and Spiritualism in general, with particular attention given to the similarities between Spiritualism and UFOs. It is certainly true that both fields cry out for serious study by the scientific community, as *The Morning Post* writer urged in his account of the London séance.

This has been but a brief overview of *Dark Séance*, but the book itself is rich in fascinating detail. Ira died in 1911, and his brother William died tragically young at age 36 in 1877. Whatever the secret to their apparent miraculous powers was, it has never been disclosed or discovered.

> "The influence of these discarnate entities is the cause of many of the inexplicable and obscure events of earth ..."

Thirty Years Among the Dead

While one reads Vice Admiral W. Usborne Moore and the Davenport Brothers in large part because they deal with physical manifestations of Spiritualistic workings, there is also another avenue explored in a book from Inner Light/Global Communications called *Thirty Years Among the Dead*, first published in 1924. The book is still available in older, more expensive editions, but Beckley's version is the only one that can truly be called "complete and unabridged."

Thirty Years is not, as the title may suggest to some, a dull account of hanging around a morgue somewhere. It offers instead a still vitally relevant approach to abnormal psychology that is based on the idea that extreme mental illness is caused not by a harsh environment or muddled brain chemistry, but by the encroachment upon the innocent by the discarnate spirits of the evil dead.

You may already be thinking that therein lies the stuff of a great horror movie, but you will be intrigued to learn that *Thirty Years Among the Dead* is a factual, well-documented account of treating and actually curing the mentally ill by contacting the oppressing spirits within the sufferer and convincing those spirits to leave.

To carry out this form of therapeutic Spiritualism, a physician named Dr. Carl A. Wickland worked alongside his wife, Anna, an accredited medium who voluntarily allowed herself to be temporarily possessed by these wicked spirits in order to better understand their tormented motivations. The Wicklands would then use this information to treat the victims who so grievously suffered under these destructive otherworldly influences.

Along with the mediumistic coercion of spirits conducted by his wife, Dr. Wickland would administer low-voltage electric shocks to the patient's neck and spine with a device called a "Wimhurst generator," a wand-like instrument that worked to "dislodge" the wicked spirit of the dead.

In his introduction to the new edition, Beckley explained that the Wicklands felt they had absolute evidence that these demented spirits of the dead liked to hang around the living in order to continue their evil ways, even from the afterlife. In essence, they would leech onto those who were prone to similar fits of debauchery or were well on their way to a life of unabated revelry and eventual damnation.

"The influence of these discarnate entities is the cause of many of the inexplicable and obscure events of earth life and of a large part of the world's misery," Dr. Wickland wrote. "A recognition of this fact accounts for a great portion of unbidden thoughts, emotions, strange forebodings, gloomy moods, irritabilities, unreasonable impulses, irrational outbursts of temper, uncontrollable infatuations, and countless other mental vagaries."

Dr. Wickland pointed out that "records of spirit obsession and possession extend from the remotest antiquity to modern times," including the *Old* and *New Testaments* and the Homeric legends. The Wicklands' work stands as an example of the power of certain Spiritualist practices to heal deep psychological and emotional wounds, something science is still groping in the dark to accomplish through medication and simple talk therapy.

And while it is true that Spiritualism cannot today claim the many millions of followers and believers it had in the years between 1850 and the early decades of the 20th Century, Timothy Green Beckley is part of the process of keeping the movement in front of the reading public and demonstrating its continued relevance to many fields of the occult sciences and to the pursuit of the truth underlying UFOs and alien abduction. Beckley's publishing efforts may one day help the world to arrive at a kind of paranormal "Theory of Everything" where all the mysteries fit in their proper places — to the enlightenment of us all.

Suggested Reading:

- *We Can Awaken the Dead: Evidence of an Afterlife Now*
- *Dark Séance: The Fabulous Davenport Brothers*
- *Thirty Years Among the Dead*
- *Revealing the Amazing Powers of Harry Houdini*

Video/Audio — Mr. Ufo's Secret Files

- https://www.youtube.com/user/MRUFO1100 ◆

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Inside the Haunted Ashmore Estates

By Cheryl Knight

Built in 1916, Ashmore Estates has long been known as one of the most haunted places in Illinois. This former almshouse, once part of the Coles County Poor Farm, operated until 1959. After that date, it was used as a psychiatric hospital. It eventually closed in 1986.

In recent years, the site offered a haunted house attraction, as well as flashlight tours. But in 2013, it was hit by a strong storm that destroyed part of the property. In 2014, Robbin and Norma Terry bought the property and began restoring it. Today, Ashmore Estates offers paranormal investigations and tours.

The location has been investigated by dozens of paranormal teams and appeared in documentaries, like *Children of the Grave 2*, and on TV shows, like *Ghost Hunters* and *Ghost Adventures*.

Reported paranormal phenomena at the location include Class A EVPs, shadow people roaming the building, objects moving without explanation, and unusual temperature changes. Some attribute the paranormal activity to unhappy spirits who were treated more like inmates than residents while staying at the Poor Farm. Many deaths have also been reported on the property over its more than 100-year-old history.

Ashmore Estates owner Robbin Terry recently spoke to *Paranormal Underground* magazine about why he bought the property, the paranormal evidence that has been gathered at the site, investigations offered, and what's in store for the future.

* * * * *

While touring Ashmore Estates after it was put up for sale in 2014, Robbin Terry (pictured above) felt as if the spirits in the building were reaching out to him and asking for his help. He bought the property and restored it, bringing Ashmore Estates back from the dead.

Q: When did you first visit Ashmore Estates?

Robbin: In fall 2012, I visited Ashmore Estates with a haunted tour group to assist them with the large number

Reported paranormal phenomena at Ashmore Estates include Class A EVPs, shadow people roaming the building, objects moving without explanation, and unusual temperature changes.

of people they had investigating the location. From viewing the outside of the building, it was one that when you looked at it you could just feel the pain and sadness that was there, but at the same time you know there were moments of joy and happiness as well.

When looking around the outside of the building, it was obvious the way it was being used, as a commercial haunted house, was probably the only thing possible because it was in a deteriorating condition.

There was one visible window in the building and not much in the way of lighting. There was no bathroom in the building, and with all the props and walls built for the haunted house, you really could not see much of the interior of the building.

I went with the group for awhile, and although I really wanted to spend time investigating the location, the building was not conducive to really doing this. I actually went out to my car while there and sat in it until about 3 a.m. before making the two-hour drive back home, wanting to return at some time in the future.

Q: Tell us about when and why you purchased Ashmore Estates.

Robbin: As many people say, things happen for a reason. Scott and Tanya Kelley, who owned Ashmore Estates, were haunted house friends of mine since we both operated one. Scott, numerous times, tried to talk me into purchasing his location, but due to the distance and what he wanted for it, it just didn't make sense.

Ashmore Estates suffered a huge hit in January 2013 when a tornado or straightline winds took off the roof of the building. Scott decided to sell the building at auction, and it was purchased by Robert Burton and a couple of others. Robert attempted to open up the location that October but was shut down due to not qualifying for a permit by the Labor Department of the State of Illinois.

It was then that Robert decided to move the haunted attraction that he wanted to build just across the state line to Indiana. Robert was in need of props and found that I was selling some on a Facebook page. I had never met

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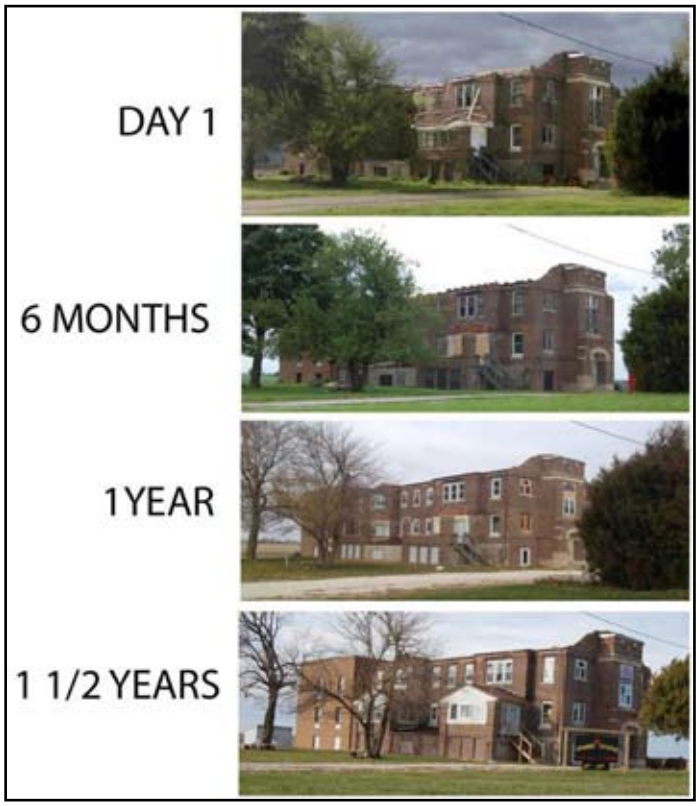

Robbin Terry restored Ashmore Estates after purchasing it in 2014. The above photos show the progression of the repairs.

him or knew of his affiliation with Ashmore Estates. He asked if he could come over and look at the props. We set the date, and he and his girlfriend made the trip.

He picked out quite a few of the props that he wanted, and we agreed on a price and arrangements. I live a little different than some, as I built a house in a movie theater. He asked if there was any way I would consider showing them around, so we took the quarter tour. When we got to the second floor, I introduced him to my wife and we talked a little there.

I asked him if he had a haunt in Illinois, and he said he did but that it was shut down due to state procedures. I asked him where, and he said he owned Ashmore Estates. He told me it was for sale if I was interested. I think my wife said, "Oh, no," knowing my interest in the location. I set up a time to go see the property.

We got together on April 5, 2014, to look through the building. It was in worse shape inside than ever. Since the roof blew off over a year prior, nothing had been done to keep water out of the building. The location was in disrepair. It was very sad to say the least. We walked floor by floor, room by room, and a friend of mine took photos of each of the rooms to give me a chance to review them later.

I don't think I actually said much while going through, as it was just a sad vibe. When walking down the hallway, I believe on the second floor, it felt to me like spirits in the building were reaching out to me and asking me to help their building. I am about as sensitive as a rock, but there was something in that building that wanted me to come back to it.

On the two-hour trip home, I asked my wife, "What do you think?" She surprisingly said to me, "You should buy the building."

After some negotiations, heated at times, and I almost walked away, we made an agreement and closed on the property May 2, 2014. After the closing, I remember driving out to Ashmore and taking a picture to post on Facebook with the caption: "The only thing better than owning one haunted location is owning two." At that point my phone blew up.

Q: What is the best evidence ever captured at Ashmore Estates?

Robbin: There have been a lot of groups, teams, individuals, and just people interested in the history of Ashmore Estates who have visited throughout the years. I am asked a lot of times what is the best evidence ever collected there. To be honest, I am not sure. I don't hear from everyone, but I do know that over half of the people who investigate Ashmore Estates come back again.

Many people will tell you the building sucks them in, a feeling I know oh so well. I do know of some great EVPs that have been captured there; some are complete sentences.

One very interesting video shows what appears to be a shadow figure, in the daylight, moving from side to side, which that was captured by Indy Afterlife Society.

Another video shows what appears to be a helium balloon being untied and released at about 6:15 in the morning, as captured by TNT Paranormal.

The personal experiences people have had are amazing. Brad Klinge from 9 Diamond Productions, and who also appeared in the TV show *Ghost Labs*, had the most amazing experience he ever encountered with room temperature change while filming a documentary named *Some Call it Home*, which is available on iTunes and later Amazon Prime.

Q: What investigations and tours do you offer, as well as other events?

Robbin: We offer public and private overnight investigations and tours. Public tours are normally held closer to October, as that seems to be the time when most want to get their "scare" on. We do offer private tours year-round.

In July 2017, Grant Wilson will be making his first trip to Ashmore Estates. Outside vendors will also be holding events this year and bring in people like John Zaf-

Pictured above is a recent view of Ashmore Estates as captured by a drone.

fis, Dustin Pari, Jonathan Hodges, and Benny Reed. We have no control over the costs of these events, with the exception of the ones we host on our Website.

We also do something that almost nobody does, daytime investigations. Think about it; if you truly believe spirits are the same in the afterlife as they are when living, why not try to communicate with them when they were most active in the building, during the day. We have had numerous teams do this, and they have all booked another daytime investigation. The evidence they collect is incredible and comes without the "paranormal hangover."

Q: What do you have planned for the future?

Robbin: In 2017, I have plans to start constructing what would resemble one of the hospital rooms from the 1970's on the property. We will be doing this on the third floor, and my friends from Riverbend Paranormal and After Dark Paranormal have agreed to help. We will be moving the hospital bed in there to see if the energy in this area changes.

Also, on the third Saturday of each month, starting in April, we will have a team come in and host a Paranormal 101 class. Each month will be different, as the group teaching the class will be different and putting their own twist on the presentation. After the class, attendees will investigate the building with the team and be able to learn how to use some of the team's equipment. We will only sell 20 tickets, and after the first 10 tickets are sold, the next tickets all go to help the Lost Limbs Foundation.

One thing I have considered for quite some time was hooking up a sound system inside the building. This would be beneficial at our events, during our work days, and for teams to investigate. Many times spirits in a building will react differently if music is being played, and this will make a wonderful trigger object for those wanting to use it.

Q: What else should our readers know about Ashmore Estates?

Robbin: I really want people to enjoy the building that sucked me in, as well as it has so many others. I was with a friend at Ashmore Estates just yesterday, and he said that he and his girlfriend want to be there every chance they can to help out. He also has a two-hour drive.

We are not the only two who feel this way. Just about anyone who has a chance to visit the building day or night is lured into it.

* * * * *

For more information about Ashmore Estates, visit http://www.ashmoreestates.net/ or https://www.facebook.com/AshmoreEstates/?hc_ref=SEARCH&fref=nf. ◆

FREE Releases Academic Paper on its 'Experiencer' Research

Content provided by the Dr. Edgar Mitchell Foundation for Research into Extraterrestrial Encounters (FREE)

In *Paranormal Underground* magazine's February 2016 issue, we published partial findings from Phase 1 and 2 of the *FREE Experiencer Research Study*, which the organizations says is the first comprehensive academic multilingual study on individuals that have had a UFO-related contact experience with non-human intelligent beings.

The study, which is conducted by the Dr. Edgar Mitchell Foundation for Research into Extraterrestrial Encounters (FREE), includes four phases. Phases 1 and 2 include a quantitative survey comprised of 600 questions. Phases 3 and 4 include qualitative research instruments. Phase 3 involves written responses to 70 open-ended questions administered to "contact experiencers" who completed both Phase 1 and 2. Phase 4 consists of a formal structured interview with approximately 200 subjects who participated in Phases 1-3.

Phases 1-3 were completed by all subjects via the online program Survey Monkey. The Phase 4 interview will be conducted and audio taped using the computer program ZOOM. Since Phase 3 and 4 are ongoing and have yet to be completed, the analysis of the results from only Phase 1 and 2 are presented in FREE's recently released academic paper, "UFO Contact With Non-Human Intelligence and the Quantum Hologram Theory of Consciousness: Toward an Integration of the Contact Modalities."

This academic paper will be presented at the annual conference of the Society for Scientific Exploration (SSE) on June 16, 2017 at Yale University and has been accepted for publication in the fall 2017 *Journal of Scientific Exploration*.

It is important to note that FREE is not a ufology organization. Its mission is to understand what is "consciousness," the nature of our reality, via academic research on individuals that have had contact with non-human intelligence.

FREE is composed of many retired academic professors and lay researchers. The organization's executive director is Dr. Rudy Schild, an emeritus professor of astrophysics from Harvard University (see sidebar on the next page for more information on Dr. Schild).

The following partial survey results are reprinted with permission from FREE. Visit http://www.experiencer.org/ for detailed study results.

Topic Areas

While most previous studies have focused on limited UFO "abduction"-related questions, the FREE study explored areas that have never been so comprehensively addressed in the field of UFO-related contact with Non-Human Intelligence (NHI). More specifically, this study addressed six major topic areas with sub-topics for each area as follows:

a) Family History of Contact;
b) Contact Experience;
c) Nature of NHI;
d) Information Received by NHI; and
e) The Physical Experiences resulting from this NHI contact.

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Sample Size and Languages

The FREE English-language survey now has more than 3,200 responses from over 110 countries. The Spanish-language survey has more than 600 responses, and the German-language survey has almost 300 responses.

We also have surveys running in French, Slovak, and (very soon) Mandarin.

Survey Results

What may be the most significant aspect of the results is that over 85% of the study population claimed to have had very similar major positive behavioral transformations as a direct outcome of their UFO-related contact experience(s) with NHI. This is represented by a reported strong increase in several personal and spiritual ways as follows:

- Concern with spiritual matters;
- Ability to love, help, and have compassion for others;
- Appreciation of the ordinary things in life;
- Insight into the problems of others;
- Concern for the welfare and ecological matters of our planet;
- Understanding of what life is all about; and
- A conviction that there is life after death, among others.

Personal attributes which strongly decreased included: concern with material things in life; interest in organized religion; and fear of death.

Overall, 50.9% reported a "Highly Positive Effect," and 21.7% reported a "Slightly Positive Effect" on "changing their life" directly from their UFO-NHI interaction.

In contrast, only 4.3% reported a "Highly Negative Effect" and 6.7% a "Slightly Negative Effect." Further, only 9.7% believed the NHI are malevolent; 62% stated that the NHI "helped them"; 71% felt "expanded consciousness" in their presence; and 66% perceived love from these beings. These behavioral outcomes do not occur after a fantasy or hallucination.

The reported transformative outcomes may be largely responsible for the finding that 83% of 1,206 respondents reported that they did "not want their contact experiences to end."

Further, almost 700 individuals were taken to and had telepathic contact with an NHI in an OBE-like "Matrix" reality — a reality with no boundaries, similar like you are in the middle of outer space. Of these individuals, 54% stated that "while in this 'Matrix'-like type of reality, they felt a sense of harmony or unity with the Universe." And 82% responded that "this 'Matrix'-like type of reality within this multi-dimensional experience seemed real; for example, as real or normal as you speaking with a family member."

The component of consciousness, a predominant

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Dr. Rudy Schild,

Executive Director of FREE

Dr. Rudy Schild is the executive director of FREE and a member of its Board of Directors. Dr. Schild is an Emeritus research astronomer at the Harvard/Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics, following an extensive career studying dark matter, black holes, and the fluid mechanical origins of cosmic structure.

Dr. Schild has published more than 300 peer-reviewed academic articles on astrophysics. Because of his long association with Dr. John Mack, he has become interested in the formulation of a coherent understanding of the nature of space-time in the Universe and is a champion of the Edgar Mitchell quantum hologram formulation of the nature of existence and reality.

As editor-in-chief of the *Journal of Cosmology*, he has attempted to broaden the scope of scientific inquiry to include the nature of consciousness and the Universe of Universes. His astronomy website is https://www.cfa.harvard.edu/~rschild/, and his personal website is http://www.rudyschild.com/. Dr. Schild resides in Cambridge, Massachusetts.

About FREE

FREE was formally incorporated as a not-for-profit research organization on July 15, 2015. FREE has been established by various retired physicists, scientists, psychologists, neuroscientists, and lay researchers to facilitate investigations into "UFO-related contact experiences with non-human intelligent beings and associated paranormal activity from a grounded and rigorous scientific foundation."

These interrelated subjects include alleged UFO-related extraterrestrial encounters, UFO-related contact with non-human intelligent entities from parallel worlds or other dimensions, plus UFO-related associated manifestations that appear to violate known physical laws.

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Image by Ben McGuire

characteristic of their experience, is represented by responses to the following questions:

1. 67% answered "yes" to the question: "Was your consciousness separated from your body at the time of the UFO and associated NHI contact experience?"
2. 70% responded "yes" to the question: "Did you feel a sense of expanded consciousness in the presence of these NHIs?"

A variety of subject opinions pertaining to the associated contact experience included the following:

a) 93.5% agree that NHIs from other planets or dimensions are already among us;
b) 86.4% agree that there are higher-order intelligences that have a concern with the welfare of our planet;
c) 79% agree that we are already in or at least on the verge of a New Age and that NHIs have a role in this;
d) 78% believe that the changes they have undergone since becoming interested in UFO experiences are part of an evolutionary unfolding of humanity;
e) 74% believe that evolutionary forces are already at work that will transform humanity at large into a more self-aware, spiritually sensitive species and that the NHIs have a role in this;
f) 72% believe that we are now living through a time of greatly accelerated spiritual evolution, and
g) 55% received "telepathic" messages or thought transferences from NHI, and of these, 1,010, or 62%, have been downloads of advanced science, physics, and technology.

67% said that their consciousness separated from their body at the time of the UFO and associated NHI contact experience.

Of the 1,437 individuals who reported to have physically seen an NHI more than once, 63% said they had witnesses to this physical contact with the NHI; 72% interacted with the NHI, and of these, 85% interacted with an NHI more than once; and 54% have seen an NHI more than 10 times.

Interestingly, the "Human Looking Being" was one of the most common types seen:

a) 55% saw Energy Beings;
b) 52% saw Human Looking Beings; and
c) 50% saw Small Greys.

As far as paranormal experiences, 95% have reported many "paranormal experiences":

- 80% have reported an Out-of-Body Experience;
- 37% reported having a Near-Death Experience;
- 51% reported a medical healing by an NHI;
- 76% have seen ghosts or spirits; and
- 67% have physically seen orbs.◆

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THE HAUNTING HISTORY BURIED BENEATH COLORADO'S CHEESMAN PARK

BY JESSICA FERRI, VIA THE LINEUP, WWW.THE-LINE-UP.COM

By 1907, some 4,000 bodies had been exhumed from Denver, Colorado's Mount Prospect Hill Cemetery. The sprawling burial ground, which was founded in 1859, once served as the resting place for many of Denver's earliest residents. By the late 1880s, however, Mount Prospect Hill had slipped into disrepair. City officials wished to turn the cemetery into a public space, which they would call Cheesman Park.

But not all of the bodies made it out of the original 320-acre burial ground. Skeletons have turned up in the public park as recently as 2010. Many more remain buried there to this day.

And it's not just the physical remnants that leave present-day visitors a little spooked. Since its development, Cheesman Park has been plagued by reports of unexplained activity.

The transformation of Mount Prospect Hill into Cheesman Park dates back to 1890, when Congress authorized the city of Denver to vacate the burial ground. Surviving family members were given 90 days to move the bodies of their loved ones to a nearby cemetery. But a problem soon surfaced: Prospect Hill was also home to a number of unmarked graves of society's "undesirables."

The city had to make quick work of the nearly 5,000 unclaimed burial plots. It paid the E. P. McGovern Undertaking Company to remove the remaining bodies. Supposedly, McGovern began hacking the contents of the graves into pieces, and placing them in child-sized coffins for quicker and easier transport. Whether or not this particular gory detail was true, the upheaval at the cemetery was positively grisly.

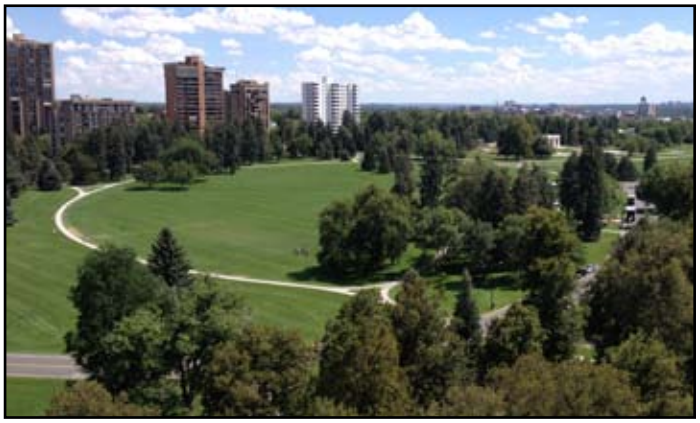
The *Denver Republican* described the scene in an article from March 19, 1893:

Cheesman Park's spooky reputation has inspired movies like *Poltergeist* and *The Changeling*. Pictured above is the north end of the park. (Photo by David Shankbone via Wikimedia Commons)

"The line of desecrated graves at the southern boundary of the cemetery sickened and horrified everybody. ... Around their edges were piled broken coffins, rent and tattered shrouds, and fragments of clothing that had been torn from the dead bodies. ... All were trampled into the ground by the footsteps of the gravediggers like rejected junk."

The Health Commissioner soon began an investigation into the questionable transportation methods at Mount Prospect Hill, and the process of moving the bodies was halted. For the next few years, the cemetery lay in disarray, with open graves exposed to grave robbers.

Eventually, empty graves were filled with trees, to pave the way for the new park. The remaining dead,



A view of Cheesman Park in Denver, Colorado, looking down from the northwest corner. Pictured above is the north end of the park. (Photo by R0uge via Wikimedia Commons)

however — an estimated 2,000 people — were simply left in place.

Paranormal Activity

Accounts of otherworldly activity in Cheesman Park stretch back to when the transfer of bodies began in 1893. One gravedigger claimed to feel a strong hand fall upon his shoulder, only to turn around to find no one there. People who lived in houses lining the cemetery reported strange visitors coming and knocking at their doors, desperate for a place to stay the night, only to vanish right before their eyes.

Cheesman Park's spooky reputation has even inspired movies like *Poltergeist* and *The Changeling*. The writer of *The Changeling* once lived at a house on the northern edge of the park (the house has since been razed). In the movie version of the story, the haunted home is called "Cheesman House."

Visitors today report feeling a deep sense of unease in the park, with the sound of whispering or chattering as they cross empty fields. Others have seen or heard groups of giggling children. There is apparently one apparition who sings quietly to herself before vanishing.

While taking a walk through the park at night, visitors are horrified to look upon what appears to be the rise and fall of phantom tombstones. Others say they feel pinned to the ground, as if being restrained.

One horrifying story tells of two friends walking through the park one night in 2005. They came across an agitated man in a hospital gown who asked to bum a cigarette. As he came closer, the two friends noticed his jaw was broken. He asked, "Did you see them? The ones who did this to me; they stabbed me 15 times." The eerie man showed them his bleeding wounds, then disappeared into the night.◆

Can a Skeptic Learn to Love a Psychic?

BY LOUISA OAKLEY GREEN, WWW.PSYCHICBYSTANDER.COM

It isn't often something occurs that turns your sense of reality on its side. But that's just what happened to me more than 20 years ago when I met my psychic husband, Stephen.

I'd worked as a journalist and science writer. And back in those days I was also a *strong* skeptic about anything paranormal. Raised in an environment where psychic phenomena were scoffed at as superstition, I was frankly quite obnoxious about it. But the Universe has a sense of humor, and I ended up falling in love with a man who, other than casually mentioning he was psychic, seemed reasonably normal.

Oh, and he also came from a family of psychics. They didn't do readings for a living; they all had normal jobs. But they had this ability ...

An award-winning journalist and science writer, Louisa Oakley Green became interested in paranormal phenomena more than 20 years ago when she met her psychic husband, Stephen.

The Psychic Bystander

One thing I've learned over the years is that psychics and non-psychics see the world differently. For instance, if you ask the two of us about the night we met, you will get two stories that seem almost unrelated. I'll start with my version.

A client asked me to write an article about a local psychic. I rolled my eyes, but dutifully met with the subject for an interview. She turned out to be a remarkably intelligent and rational woman, completely dispelling my preconceptions about "fortune tellers." Still, at the end of our session, I skeptically jabbed, "If you truly are psychic, then can you tell me who I'll marry?" She smiled and invited me to her weekly psychic development classes.

At the time, this seemed more like an evasion than an answer. Initially, I dismissed the invitation. A year passed, and for some reason, one night that invitation bubbled up in my memory. A true journalist should be open to experiencing new things. So, I followed my curiosity and showed up at her door. She remembered me, which is odd when you consider we had only met once for about an hour a year before. She cheerfully invited me in, introduced me to her many regulars, and we had a surprisingly fascinating evening. So much so that I decided to continue attending. There were so many people to meet that night that I have only a faint memory of a shy and serious-looking young man named Stephen. Which brings us to his version of the evening.

Stephen recalls seeing a new student named Louisa entering the room, and he shook her hand while being introduced. Conversation didn't go much beyond "Nice to

meet you." After class, he raced home to tell his parents he had met the woman he was going to marry. *How could he know that?* Well, Stephen is one of those people who can feel the unique electromagnetic vibrational signature we all have. When he shakes someone's hand, he initially feels a slight vibrational spike as the energy in his hand and that of the hand he is shaking adjust. When he shook *my* hand, he felt no difference in our energy — no spike — a first for him. So, in his mind, that meant we were soul mates and would someday marry.

Fortunately, he didn't share that with me at the time or I would have bolted in the opposite direction. Instead, he bided his time, courted me, and a little over a year later we walked down the aisle together.

I introduced myself in my first book, *Loitering at the Gate to Eternity*, as a "psychic bystander." That's because I've spent much of my adult life surrounded by astounding clairvoyants and mediums, beginning with my husband. However, I do not appear to have much psychic ability myself. And that's okay. One psychic in the house is enough.

I'm often asked, what was the tipping point that softened your skepticism? It took many events to do that — I guess I was a tough customer — but one of the most memorable ones happened about five years after we married. My father had passed, and my family was planning his funeral. Feeling sentimental, we decided to call the minister who had led our church congregation when I was growing up.

It had been many years since we'd attended that house of worship, so our memory of the minister was frozen in time. Little did we know that the good reverend had long since retired and was well into his 80s. But when we called, his wife was thrilled that we remembered him and said he'd be glad to officiate.

We met on the day of my father's wake at the funeral home, an old Colonial mansion filled with the overly sweet cologne of too many flower arrangements. At one point, the minister asked everyone to be seated for a brief service. I sat down in the front row between my mother and Stephen, bracing for tears. Then something peculiar happened that broke the tension.

During his eulogy, the minister rambled on aimlessly, leaving us stranded with the gradual and oddly amusing epiphany that he had lost his focus. As his monologue wandered about, I remember Stephen leaning over and whispering that he saw my father standing next to the minister, arms crossed, impatiently tapping his foot. I didn't think much of it until my brother-in-law, Tom, contacted me a week later.

He had delayed calling to avoid upsetting me on the day of my father's wake. He wanted me to know that during the eulogy, he had seen my father standing restlessly by the minister with his arms crossed, impatiently tapping his foot. The fact that they both described the same image of my father, without having spoken to each other, stunned me. It would be the first of many inexplicable experiences.

Stephen stands near a towering trilithon stone formation at Stonehenge near dusk.

Married to a Psychic

Another frequent question I'm asked when promoting my books is: "What's it like being married to a psychic?"

Well, it's different. When I first married Stephen, he kept his psychic abilities to himself, and they didn't really catch my attention. As I mentioned earlier, I was a skeptic and tended to ignore things that someone with an awareness of parapsychology might notice. What drew me to my husband was what great company he was. And he most certainly was never boring. The "psychic thing" was something I affectionately shrugged off as part of his unique personality. Most of the time

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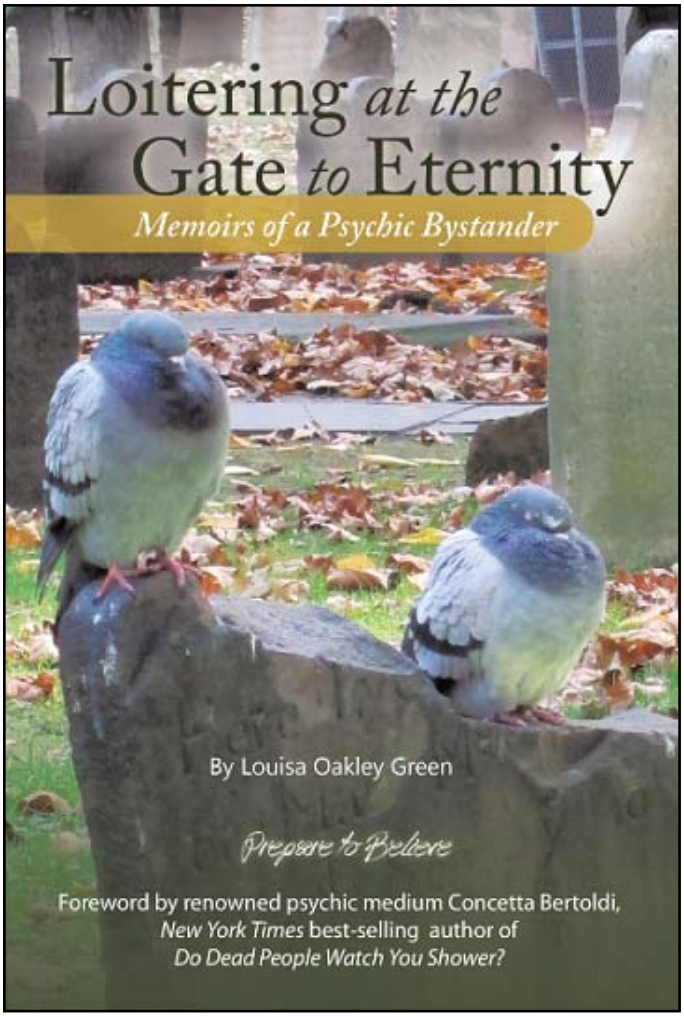

Loitering at the Gate to Eternity
Memoirs of a Psychic Bystander
By Louisa Oakley Green
Prepare to Believe
Foreword by renowned psychic medium Concetta Bertoldi,
New York Times best-selling author of
Do Dead People Watch You Shower?

In *Loitering at the Gate to Eternity: Memoirs of a Psychic Bystander,* Louisa recounts the psychic tales of everyday people, from school teachers and business professionals to four gifted psychic professionals.

I ignored it; sometimes it could be annoying, both of which I'll explain.

To most people familiar with psychics, it probably comes as no surprise that psychic ability tends to run in families. Diane Hennacy Powell, MD, a neuropsychiatrist who taught at Harvard Medical School, observed in her research that there is a genetic component to psychic ability. Psychics have a brain-nervous system antenna that can pick up on energy that people with less sensitive nervous systems might miss. She added that in addition to being inherited, psychic ability sometimes develops after head trauma, which she suggests may adjust that neurological antenna.

In further readings, I discovered psychic ability has also emerged following near-death experiences as seen, for instance, with Joseph McMoneagle, a retired U.S. Army NCO and chief warrant officer. Readers may be familiar with his involvement in remote viewing operations and experiments conducted by U.S. Army Intelligence and the Stanford Research Institute.

Dr. Hennacy Powell further observed that the extremely sensitive nervous systems of psychics not only allow them to pick up on energy others may not sense, but also can make them hypersensitive in general. For instance, many a time we entered the local mall for a shopping trip, and Stephen would turn to me and say that the energy there was so negative that he had to leave.

At first, this sounded a tad suspicious to me. *Was he trying to get out of an afternoon at the mall?* Once, he even had that feeling about an entire town we visited. Stephen says that negative energy feels like a sense of foreboding encircling him that eventually agitates him to the point of panic. Experience taught me that if I didn't take him seriously, he could become physically ill from that type of exposure.

The Effects of Energy Overload

Psychics are also prone to certain neurological illnesses, as I've observed from the many people I've interviewed. These conditions can include fibromyalgia, migraines, multiple sclerosis, and epilepsy. According to one physicist's research I reviewed, many psychics develop fibromyalgia because of energy overload. That insight would have been valuable for Stephen to know back in 1999, when we traveled to England and toured Stonehenge. As most people know, this monument is a ring of standing stones thought to have been constructed around 2500 to 2000 BC. Our private tour, led by local crop circle expert Busty Taylor, took us into the Stonehenge circle and allowed us to meditate there.

Months before we embarked on this trip, Stephen had recurring visions of a handprint on one of the stones. After our meditation, we had a few minutes to walk around and touch those huge rock slabs surrounding us. Stephen found one with the familiar handprint from his dream and pressed his palm up against it. I'm not sure exactly what happened, but when we had to leave a few minutes later, his hand needed to be pulled off because it was stuck.

Unfortunately, soon after we returned from that trip, Stephen fell ill and was bedridden for two years. From that point on, he had debilitating fibromyalgia. It took him seven years before he was able to work full-time again, but he eventually beat the condition and is fine today. He does, however, suffer from migraines.

Day-to-Day Life With a Psychic

So if those are some of the challenging elements of living with a psychic, what are the more rewarding aspects? Well, Stephen is extremely sensitive to the feelings of others. If something is wrong, I can't hide it from him.

He'll look me straight in the eyes and demand, "Okay, what's wrong? Tell me." His sensitivity makes him an emotionally supportive and understanding partner.

I've also learned to take what he says seriously on the rare occasions he offers a subtle warning. Twice during our marriage, he made a point of telling me to drive carefully when we parted for our jobs in the morning. I abruptly forgot about his caution only to be reminded later in the day with an automobile accident — both times not my fault.

I EVOLVED FROM BELIEVING IN ONLY THE PHYSICAL WORLD TO VIEWING THE UNIVERSE AS AN INDIVISIBLE FIELD OF ETERNAL ENERGY.

Perhaps the most valuable gift he has given me during our many years of marriage is a new outlook on life. I evolved from believing in only the physical world to viewing the Universe as an indivisible field of eternal energy. As a life sciences and environmental writer, I have endeavored to understand this concept on both scientific and spiritual levels. I can't say that I entirely do, but the invisible world around us continues to fill me with a sense of curiosity and wonder.

Sharing the Psychic Experience With Others

My two anthologies of people's psychic experiences — *Loitering at the Gate to Eternity: Memoirs of a Psychic Bystander* and *Sightseeing in the Undiscovered Country: Tales Retold by a Psychic Bystander*, are my way of sharing my fascination with the inexplicable.

Both anthologies contain more than 100 true tales of everyday people's psychic experiences, including tales of dead relatives who insist on having the last annoying word, ghosts behaving badly, inspiring near-death experiences, reincarnation, and dreams foretelling the future.

The science writer in me added the history of these various phenomena in my first book and an overview of several recent university and military studies into consciousness, near-death experiences, reincarnation, and more in my second book.

People in these anthologies have worked in the fields of healthcare, education, finance, engineering, marketing, entertainment, pastoral services, and law enforcement. In other words, they represent the bedrock of our society.

When you finish reading their personal accounts, perhaps like me, you may never view "reality" the same way again. ◆

AuthorKarenFrazier.com

Visit the website of Karen Frazier

- Paranormal and metaphysical author
- Intuitive energy healer
- Psychic medium
- Reiki master/teacher
- Co-host of *Paranormal Underground Radio In the Dark*
- Columnist for *Paranormal Underground Magazine*

Dealing With Toxicity

By Karen Frazier, Paranormal Underground Radio

It's natural to have a strong emotional reaction to a toxic person or event. Unfortunately, what often happens is the strength of the emotion attached to the person or the event creates energetic ties that grow stronger every time you revisit how you feel.

This can (and often does) become a series of looping thoughts that keep us energetically connected to the toxicity. And the more energy we give to that person or event, the more deeply ingrained the toxic energetic pattern grows in us. We create energetic ties that can be harmful to us.

I'm not suggesting you don't react emotionally to painful events, toxic people, negativity, or betrayals. You're not a robot — you feel how you feel. It's natural and even beneficial to experience a range of emotions in relation to negative events or people. Allow yourself to feel them fully.

However, when you keep revisiting these emotions weeks or months after the relationship or event has ended, you are building energetic ties to negativity. For your own self preservation, it's important to detach yourself from that energy just as soon as possible.

So how does one detach from these negative feelings?

1. Allow yourself in the first few days to fully experience all emotions that arise. Don't try to stop them. Be in the moment and experience how you feel without making yourself wrong for doing so. You are allowed to feel how you feel.

2. If you notice that, after a time, you experience events, thoughts, and emotions regularly related to the person or situation, realize you are creating a negative energetic pattern that doesn't serve you.

3. Pay attention and notice every time this person or situation comes up in your mind. Notice how it affects you, and then work to consciously change your thought pattern.

So you've caught yourself reliving a situation, looping thoughts and emotions, or caught in the negative energy in the wake of toxicity. What do you do next?

1. Close your eyes and visualize the person or situation. See the energy stretching between the two of you,

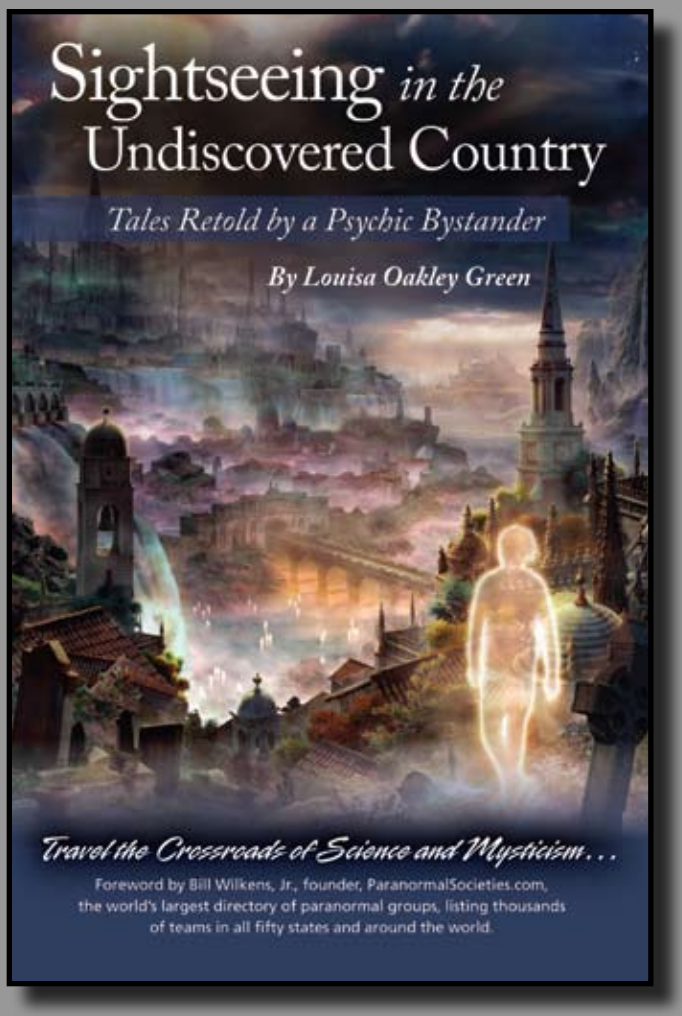
connecting you. Now, visualize yourself using scissors, a knife, a sword, a machete, or any other tool and cutting every single one of those energetic strands.

2. After you've cut the energy, imagine a shower of white light coming down from above you and showering you in healing energy. Feel the light and energy flowing throughout your being until you feel calmed and refreshed.

3. Now here's the hard part. Imagine the other person or the event. Shower the person or event with the same white light, perhaps affirming, "I wish you love," "I release you," or "I wish you peace." You probably won't actually wish them love to start — I get that. So fake it 'til you make it. Eventually, you'll mean it.

If it's a toxic person, it often helps to imagine them as they were when they were a young child or a baby, or visualize their higher spiritual selves instead of how they are currently embodied.

Do this every single time you notice your thoughts looping back to the person or event. If you do, soon you will have replaced the negative energetic ties with new positive energy that will allow you to move forward in a joyful and positive fashion.◆


Sightseeing in the Undiscovered Country
Tales Retold by a Psychic Bystander
By Louisa Oakley Green
Travel the Crossroads of Science and Mysticism...
Foreword by Bill Wilkens, Jr., founder, ParanormalSocieties.com, the world's largest directory of paranormal groups, listing thousands of teams in all fifty states and around the world.

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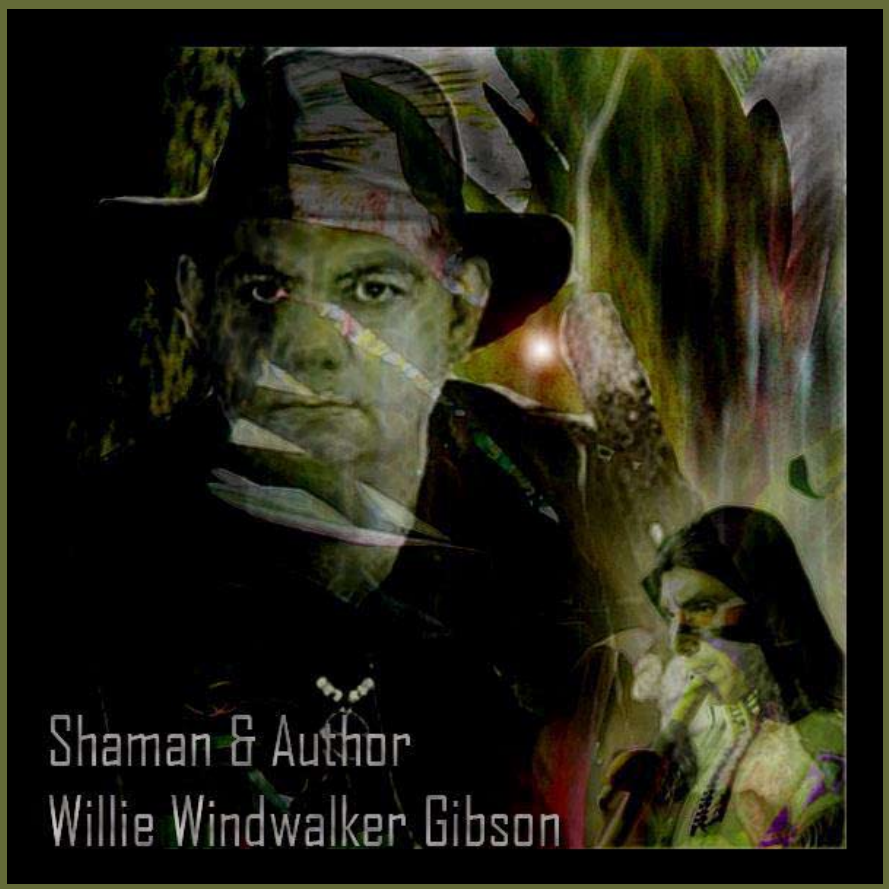

WILLIE WINDWALKER GIBSON

OFFERS READINGS VIA EMAIL OR BY PHONE.

CRYSTALCHIEF55@AOL.COM

HTTPS://WWW.FACEBOOK.COM/WILLIE.GIBSON.3517?FREF=TS

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THE SHAMAN

By Willie Windwalker Gibson, www.shamanwindwalker.com

My name is Willie Windwalker Gibson. I am Cherokee and Irish. I live In Louisville, Kentucky. I am a shaman. People ask me what a shaman is. I tell them a shaman is a very spiritual person who is chosen by the spirits to help people. While my research says the origin of the shaman started in Siberia, I look to my current teachings to guide me in my work.

When I Became a Shaman

It was 1980, and I was a policeman assigned to patrol state properties in Louisville. I had the midnight to 8 a.m. shift. I loved night work. It was quiet and usually uneventful.

One night I was on patrol at an area that had native burial grounds on it. Sometimes I would park there and just sit, watch, and meditate. There was never any traffic that came through at that time of the morning.

One night about 2 a.m., I was sitting in the burial grounds watching it rain. It was a light, misty rain. As I watched the rain through my windshield, I saw a figure appear just ahead of my car. I quickly put on my headlights and side searchlight on the figure. I could see it was a man dressed in buckskins. It was an American Indian.

I got out of my car and challenged the man to stop. He kept on walking to the car. I told the man to stop again; this time I had my hand on my gun. The man stopped about 20 feet away from me. I asked the man what he was doing there. He just stood there in the rain and smiled at me. I asked him what his name was. He smiled and said, "Singing Fox."

I just stood there. I asked the man again why he was in the burial grounds at that time of night.

He then said, "I belong here. I watch over this place."

I started walking to the man, watching his hands to make sure they remained by his side.

When I got in front of him, I could see his face better. It was brown and withered, but soulful. The man's eyes were a deep hazel.

"Brother, are you not Indian?" he asked me.

"Yes," I said.

"What is your Indian name?" he asked me.

"I don't have one," I told him. "My name is Willie Gibson."

He shook his head no and then said, "From this day on, you are Windwalker, he who walks with the spirits."

He then asked me, "Do you see me?"

"Yes, why?" I asked him.

He smiled and said, "You are a chosen one. You can see and hear spirits."

I looked at him and said, "No one knows about that except for my father. Since I was 10 years old, I had the gift of second sight, but I kept it quiet except from my dad."

"Windwalker, you will be a medicine man. You will be a shaman," he said. I looked at him and told him, "I am a cop. I will always be a cop."

He smiled and said, "No! You have been chosen by the spirits. I looked at him and asked, "What spirits?"

He smiled, looked me straight in the eyes, and disappeared.

I stood there just looking, standing in the rain soaking wet. I finally got back into my patrol car and just sat there. I didn't make a report on what I saw. I thought it was best.

* * * * *

The next night I was on patrol in the burial grounds. I was driving slowly down the road. Once again my light hit a man standing by a tree near the road. It was Singing Fox.

I got out walked up to him. He smiled and said, "Let's sit."

I told him to get in the car and we would talk. He got in the front seat, and we sat there. I listened to him tell me that I would be a shaman and that I would help people. He said the great spirits and all the other spirits wanted this. He told me this was my path.

I told Singing Fox I had no training for this path.

He looked at me and said I would have many teachers that would be there for me. Singing Fox said he would teach me for a time, and then others would come. Then I would go on my own to teach and help others.

This went on for six months. I would be on patrol and somewhere along the way I would run into the old American Indian. I would stop, and for a few hours he would teach me about the ways of the shaman.

One day I was called in to do a double shift, because the evening patrolman was sick. I took the extra shift. There was only two of us on the afternoon watch — myself and another female officer named Parker. Although I usually did my watch alone, the afternoon watch had two in the car from 4 p.m. until midnight.

I was driving, and Officer Parker was in the passenger seat. I was hoping that Singing Fox wouldn't show until my late watch started and I was alone. As we drove slowly on patrol, we saw a man in the field next to some graves. I stopped the car and got out with Parker.

The man was urinating. I yelled at him to stop. He turned, and I noticed he had a reflective object tucked in his belt. I thought it could be a weapon. I told him to stand still and began walking to the man. But he took off running.

I told Parker to get behind the wheel and head down the road to cut him off. I started running after the man. As I ran, I could see him about two blocks ahead of me. I saw him jump over a pile of rocks.

When I got to the rock pile and jumped, I fell into an open hole in the ground. I grabbed a tree branch, which broke my fall. I looked down and saw that I was in a muddy sinkhole. I was waste deep in mud, clinging to the branch to keep me from sinking. I had one hand free. I was able to reach my walkie, which was clipped to my belt. I called Parker and told her I needed help, fast!

Parker said she got the suspect cuffed and in the back of the car. She told me she was on the way.

I realized she couldn't see me, so I told her where I was and to keep talking until I heard the car. But I could feel myself slipping more and more into the mud hole. Then, I felt the grip of a hand on my wrist that was holding the branch.

I looked up. It was Singing Fox. He was looking down at me, smiling as usual.

"I have you brother," he said.

Then I heard the car, and I told Parker to stop and look for me. I looked up again, and Singing Fox was gone. I saw Parker looking down the hole at me. She got another branch and pulled me to safety.

When she pulled me out, Parker told me to look in the backseat of the car. I did, and there was the guy I was chasing. Parker said that when she was going down the road, the guy jumped on the hood of the car and yelled, "Indian!"

I looked at Parker and said, "He must be on something."

She said that he had a paint spray can had been huffing paint. That spray can was apparently the reflective object that I had thought was a weapon.

I didn't say anything about Singing Fox saving me from drowning in that mud hole.

* * * * *

A few more months passed, while Singing Fox and I continued our learning talks. Then one day, Singing Fox said to me it was time for me to go.

The very next day I was transferred to another location to patrol. I stayed a policeman for another two months after that. Then, the wanting of being a cop faded away, and I resigned from the force so I could be free to do what I was called to do: be a shaman.

Singing Fox was right. I did meet more shaman teachers, both human and spirits. It's now more than thirty years later, and I have been helping people and spirits ever since.

I have learned that shamans are chosen. You can't read a book and say you're a shaman. Shamans are a rare breed of people with special gifts. I am proud to have been one of the chosen.◆

Still a Skeptic?

Let the 'Wonder Box' Creator Steve Huff Open Your Mind

By Krystle Vermes, getspooked.net

If you've watched an episode of *Paranormal Lockdown* on TLC, you might have seen paranormal investigators Nick Groff and Katrina Weidman using a "Wonder Box." It looks like a small, screen-less retro television with exposed, bright wires — unusual, to say the least, but don't be fooled. As strange as it may initially appear, it yields ground-breaking results.

To say that the Wonder Box is revolutionizing the way investigators gather evidence is an understatement after seeing it used on *Paranormal Lockdown*, but is it the real deal? Can the device pick up spirit voices and allow us to have real-time conversations with the dead? We spoke to Steve Huff, the man behind the Wonder Box, for more insight.

* * * * *

Q: Can you give us the full story on how the Wonder Box went from an idea to an actual device?

Steve: The Portal, the original device, came to be after two to three years of doing spirit communication sessions with scanning radios, which back then was all we really had for audible communication. It is amazing how far we have come in such a short time, but I remember getting replies from spirits to 'cut the noise,' and that led me to start experimenting with ways to do just that.

The first thing I did was work with Anthony Sanchez from Ghosthunterapps.com to help create Spirit Communication Device (SCD-1) software. It used the same concept as a scanning radio, but since it would scan IP radio (Internet), there would be no noise, no static, and no screeching.

While testing this theory, I also told Anthony to

Steve Huff is a photographer, blogger, paranormal researcher, and inventor of a powerful device, called the Wonder Box, that helps connect investigators with the dead, as seen on *Paranormal Lockdown*. The Wonder Box is said to pick up spirits who have not crossed over yet, as well as angels and evil entities.

include reverb, as I was testing radios with a guitar rig. When I activated my reverb, I noticed the replies would double or even triple. It seemed spirits were using the reverb trail to somehow extend their replies.

During the development of the SCD-1, I was also creating the first 'Portal' device. When the SCD-1 software was ready for beta testing, I noticed that activating the reverb on the app greatly enhanced replies for me. It was then that I went online and bought every reverb pedal I could find, from a $35 cheapie to a $500 deluxe pro model of reverb.

I tested and found two or three that worked really well. Then I tried a few noise-reduction guitar pedals, and when I connected a radio scanner to the noise-reduction device, and then to the reverb, it was cutting out 85 percent of the noise and giving me much clearer and longer replies.

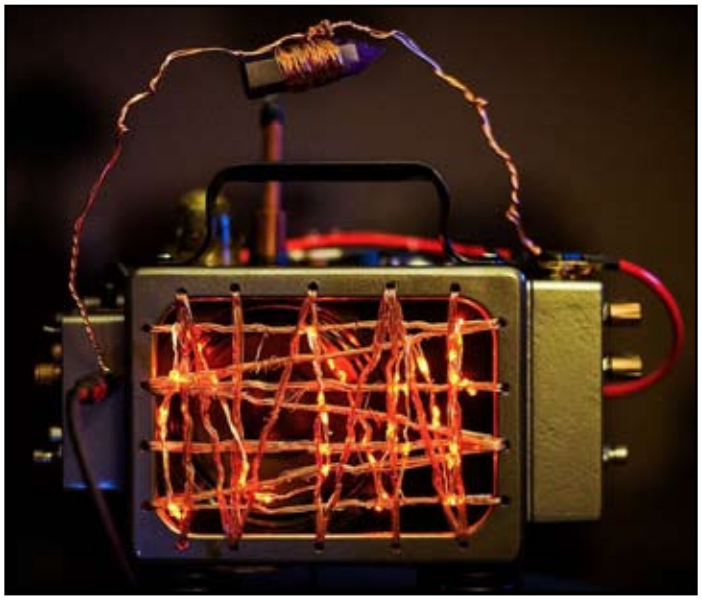
This is when I went to work to find the perfect amplifier to use to make what became 'The Portal.' I knew spirits were also asking for 'more power,' so I chose a little powerful amp, and when all hooked up together, I was getting replies like I never heard from anyone, ever. They were so good that many cried 'fake,' and still do sometimes. It is just unbelievable as to what comes through, and I understand that disbelief, but the fact is that it is very real. I could use a radio or the SCD-1 into this device, and it was just blowing my mind.

As time went on, I started experimenting more and finally ended up where I am today, with the new Wonder Box. The box I make today, called the Wonder Box, is much more involved than that original Portal. I now use magnetic energy, orgone energy, human energy, and all different and custom reverb, along with something I call 'Voice Control" which brings in 30 to 40 percent more direct replies. I cannot explain it, but it just works.

Today I make them as a premium ITC device — paint, clear coat, copper energy transfer, crystals, and all of the tools I now know can help spirits to come through. The Wonder Box today is around 40 percent clearer than the original Portal, and more direct. I have had conversational-like interactions with spirit using this device.

It's incredible and sometimes just blows my mind. I will sit and say to myself, 'How did you do this, Steve? What the Hell just happened?' I cannot even answer that question, but I think it was with the help of the spirits themselves. Sounds crazy, but that is what I truly believe, as they have left me all kinds of hints as to what to add to the box over the years.

Q: Can you explain in layman's terms how the Wonder Box works? How would you best explain it to someone who may be skeptical about its accuracy and/or efficiency?



Steve experimented over the years to make his original device, The Portal, more effective. He eventually created the new Wonder Box, which he says is around 40 percent clearer than the original Portal.

Steve: No one knows how it works or why it works; we just know it works. My theory is that spirits use the electric current going through the amp (they seem to love electronics), as well as the reverb, reverse, and energies that are created by the magnetics, orgone, and copper.

I'm not sure how anyone can be skeptical, as it calls users by their names (first and last), and it gives relevant, direct replies to questions. When a deep connection is made, the box goes silent and the spirits seem to take over.

There are hundreds of Portals all over the world, and there are around 20 Wonder Box devices around the world. I get emails often from those sending clips that they have recorded where their Portal or Wonder Box asks for me by my first and last name. These are people using radios and apps with the box.

The only way one can be skeptical about it is if they just think what I do is fake, and I assure you 100 percent that I have never faked a thing. What you hear is what comes out, and lately, it has been undeniable, as we have back and forth real-time interactions. I ask for their name, and they give it instantly. I ask how many are with me, and they give me the answer instantly. I ask if they like the app or radio better, and they answer me instantly. That is evidence you cannot refute, and those who have experienced it in person are usually astounded by it.

I really do not care who believes or who does not believe. All that matters to me is the research that is happening using the device, and I know it is real, as do many others who use them in their own research. I will keep on

→

developing and using this device until the day I die, and one day it will break through to the world.

Today, there are countless others out there making boxes with reverb and noise reduction, and even other things I discovered work for communication. I think that is awesome, as it shows it works and people are starting to take notice. I love seeing the creations that were inspired by my devices. I am like a proud papa.

Q: In clips, it almost seems like you could turn on the Wonder Box, leave it on all day, and continuously receive messages from the dead — almost like a radio station that exclusively streams ghosts. Would you agree or disagree with that perception?

Steve plans to collaborate on "some pretty interesting things and creations that will help further the field of Instrumental Transcommunication."

Steve: Yes, we could, and the spirits ask for that, but I feel 100 percent that it does indeed open a real portal. That is something that at one time in life I used to laugh at. I never believed in portals. Now, 100 percent, yes, as [spirits] tell me it opens them.

There is a reason I only do shorter sessions. First, because it drains me if I do longer than 15 minutes. Secondly, when I do longer sessions at home, many spirits decide to hang around, and that, from what I have found, can cause health issues.

But, yes, it could be left on and you hear them converse about each other or what is in the room, or about me if I leave the room. I just choose not to leave it for long. It is different than just leaving a scanning radio on, in my opinion, as a scanning radio will not open a portal on its own. Mixed with this, I believe it can, and does.

Q: What is your goal for the Wonder Box? What types of capabilities would you like it to eventually have?

Steve: As of the end of January 2017, I have gotten to the point where I am happy with the clarity of the device. It took me a long time to get here, but now that it is so clear, I am moving on to the next advancements.

My brain is always working and thinking about it, always. I would like to somehow find a way (and I am working on it) to allow our voice to be heard more clearly by the spirits. They have a hard time hearing, and while they can read my thoughts, not all do. They have mentioned I speak too low or I am hard to hear. If I could come up with a way for them to hear us better, it could improve communication even more.

I am also looking into ways to add some sort of visual feature, meaning when you record a session and film the box, there may be something added to it later that allows us to see who we are speaking with. I will start testing this idea soon. I'm not sure if it will work; I have to test it.

I have also been testing my 'Human Energy Transfer' device, which gives [spirits] the power/energy they seek. This three-part device hooks onto me, and in recent tests, it does seem to help with a more direct, conversational-like experience. I'm still testing this one, and it will only be for me, as I feel there could be risks involved with it. Spirits have sucked my energy dry when using it twice, so I am not so sure about it.

With all of that said, I am always trying new things and spending a fortune to do so, which I really need to stop doing before I go broke.

Q: What are the projects you are working on right now?

Steve: Well, besides working on improving my Wonder Box, I also have some plans for 2017 to collaborate on some pretty interesting things and creations that will not only help further the field of Instrumental Transcommunication (ITC), but do so in a very cool way that no one has ever done before.

To do that, I will be working with who I see as some of the best in the field, as it is not just me pushing the envelope. There are many great people, and those are the ones I choose to work with — positive, kind, forward-thinking people. But my lips are sealed on that one. We will have to wait and see what comes this year.

I just finished appearing on Nick Groff's show, *Paranormal Lockdown*. That was a crazy episode!

I would also love to travel around the U.S. in an RV with Debby (my fiancée) and the Wonder Box to meet many of the great friends I have made in the ITC field and to film and document all of it for a documentary – doing sessions with them and seeing what the spirits have to say.

> "I WOULD LIKE TO SOMEHOW FIND A WAY TO ALLOW OUR VOICE TO BE HEARD MORE CLEARLY BY THE SPIRITS."

It will be a great 2017 I think. I am working on getting my spiritual connection even deeper, and to me, that is the most important thing. Without that, my results would not be what they are today.

Q: Any unique experiences in your work in the paranormal? Memorable moments?

Steve: I have many great memories from 2016. Making the documentary, *Finding the Light*, with my good friend Josh Louis of HOPE Paranormal, working with the Chillseekers, meeting up with Medium Katrina Cooper, meeting George Brown (creator of the Geobox) and doing a video with him in West Virginia, working with Nick and Katrina from *Paranormal Lockdown* and seeing their work with my Wonder Box ... so many great memories.

I would like to tell all of those out there wanting to get into this field that if you ever fear it, you should never get into this work. Fear can harm you much more than spirits (in most normal cases), and fear will play a mind game with you when you start hearing [spirits] say your name or that they watch you at all times. It can get creepy when you first get into this.

Also, for those who do this and want to expand their connections or get better results, my advice would be to always stay positive, always be kind to all, and always help others who need help if you can give it to them.

When doing sessions with spirits, treat them with love and respect, and if you mean it, they will feel it and they will talk. The most important aspect with this field is your connection – at least that is my experience. Work on that and the sky is the limit for reaching out to the other side.

* * * * *

To find out more about Steve Huff and his research, visit http://huffparanormal.com/ and https://www.facebook.com/HuffParanormal/. ◆

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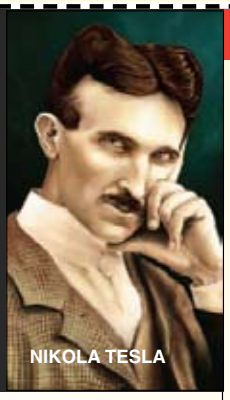
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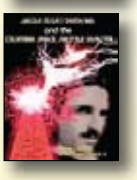

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WHAT IS NECROMANCY?

By Winter M. Balefire, WinterBalefire.com

Necromancy is known as the art of communicating with and even raising the dead. This controversial type of magic has roots in ancient Egypt, Greece, and Rome. So what is it, do people really practice it in modern times, and why?

Communicating With the Dead

When we think of necromancy our minds jump to digging through graveyards and moving corpses. While this does happen with certain aspects of this type of magic, there is more to it ... a lot more.

The main purpose of necromancy is usually to gain knowledge. Those in the spirit realm are believed to have the ability to see and know all. Some want to know about the afterlife, some want to know if a loved one is finally at peace, and some want help in the realm of the living.

More common forms of necromancy occur almost daily with the use of the Ouija board as some attempt to seek answers from the spirit world. Other forms of divination, like scrying and certain ancestor spells, can also be considered forms of necromancy.

There is a common suggestion to anyone attempting to try this form of magic: They should start with trying to communicate with family members. This way, the practitioner can more easily gage how the spirit is going to react, and it will more than likely be a friendly one to work with.

Raising the Dead

This type of necromancy, where you are literally attempting to raise the dead, is considered one of the darkest forms of magic. Usually the practitioner is looking for something for personal gain, such as the location of hidden treasures, sacred knowledge, or even how to best conjure and control another spirit. They are willing to do whatever it takes to obtain this information.

These rituals have been attempted for centuries, and the steps have not changed much over the years. There is a belief that it is easier to raise a body that has been deceased less than a year. They are more likely to still be near their burial place. The older the corpse, the more difficult it is to raise.

Looking at past practices used by necromancers, they would use many different locations, including underground vaults, forests, churches, and graveyards. Crossroads were also popular locations, anywhere the practitioner would not be disturbed.

There were nine days of preparation before the ritual. Necromancers would dress themselves in clothes taken from a corpse while reciting their own funeral rites. These

clothes were to remain on until the ritual was complete. The food they ate could not contain salt, since salt is a preservative. They ate black unleavened bread and drank unfermented grape juice. The only meat they were allowed to eat was dog meat, since dogs were a symbol of the goddess Hecate. The basic idea was to surround themselves with death.

When it was time for the ritual, the necromancer would go to their location between midnight and 1 a.m. A circle would be drawn around the grave. Saffron, wood, and mandrake would be burning as they exhumed the body. The body would be placed with its head facing the East, toward the rising sun, and the arms would be outstretched. A bowl of wine and sweet oil would be placed near the right hand of the corpse as an offering.

THIS TYPE OF MAGIC IS CONSIDERED TO BE DIFFICULT TO PERFORM AND VERY DANGEROUS.

The necromancer would touch the corpse three times with their wand while reciting their incantations. It was believed the spirit of the deceased would enter the body and it would slowly rise.

The practitioner would begin by asking questions, and the spirit would respond in a low voice. Once the necromancer was satisfied with the answers they had received, they would release the spirit and would either burn the body or bury it in quicklime to dissolve it so no one else could force it to rise again.

Is Necromancy Dangerous?

The short answer is yes. This type of magic is considered to not only be very difficult to perform, but also very dangerous. Usually spirits are not happy with being called back into their old body. Spirits can become confused and at times angry and violent.

Some necromancers go beyond wanting to raise the dead and actually attempt to raise and control other non-human spirits, such as demons or elementals. Usually, their purpose is to use these beings to carry out attacks on whomever they wish to cause harm and suffering.

Another reason this is a risky type of magic is the theory that these spirts can attempt to drain the practitioner of their own life force. These spirits are looking for another body, and yours can be quite tempting to them.

Finally, disturbing a grave is both illegal and morally wrong. Leave the dead where they lay, and focus on the power you contain within your own living, breathing self. ◆

Erik MacGregor, from a clan of ancient Scottish warlocks, isn't looking for love…until he moves in next door to Lydia Barratt.
Covet
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Covet
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Love POTIONS
A little magickal mischief never hurt anyone...
Michelle M. Pillow

INSIDE THE MORGUE
AT WAVERLY HILLS SANATORIUM

By Theresa Argie, via The Lineup, www.the-line-up.com

After being contacted by a casting director, Cathi Weber, Darla Spector, and I — the Haunted Housewives — were chosen to participate in a new reality television show for the Travel Channel, called Paranormal Challenge, created and hosted by *Ghost Adventures* star Zak Bagans.

Each episode featured two three-person teams of paranormal investigators in a head-to-head competition at some of the most haunted locations in the United States. We were delighted when producers sent us to Waverly Hills Sanatorium, which was at the top of our paranormal wishlist.

During our three-day shoot in May 2011, we engaged in a battle of nerves, technical skills, team work, and historical knowledge against our worthy competition, Dark Alley Paranormal. Each team simultaneously investigated the building, armed with the same equipment, in an extremely limited time frame.

A cameraman and sound technician followed us throughout the night investigation. Special areas were designated as "solo" spots, where a team member investigated alone rigged with a POV camera. A panel of expert judges monitored the teams remotely via stationary and robotic cameras placed throughout the building.

The sanatorium was electric with paranormal activity, and both teams captured amazing evidence. But, alas, there could only be one winner. The Haunted Housewives reigned victorious and were awarded the grand prize: bragging rights.

When we returned to Waverly Hills in August 2012, my teammates and I had the opportunity to explore the building at a much less televised, much more leisurely pace. Without the pressures of judgment and a ticking clock, we were able to spend more time investigating properly.

We entered the morgue with much trepidation. The space felt tight and confined, even though it was nearly empty, with most of its original equipment long gone. What remained sent shivers up my spine.

While investigating the morgue at Waverly Hills Sanatorium, the Haunted Housewives felt the temperature drop, had a camera malfunction, and caught responses from the spirit box.

The most disturbing aspects of the room were the body trays. The drawer-like structures were built into the wall in a group of three, one on top of another like a double oven, containing sliding slats that allowed access to the bodies. They were still in working order although the doors were missing.

My mind quickly painted a picture of an emaciated corpse, pale and bloodless, lying face up on a cold slab, waiting for its turn on the autopsy table. The trays made a horrible screeching sound as they were pulled out, strenuously objecting to being disturbed.

On my previous visit to the sanatorium, while filming Paranormal Challenge, I had bravely (or stupidly) lain down on one of these slats and had my teammates slide me in, thinking this would be a good way to stir up some spirit activity. After a two-minute eternity, my fear and claustrophobia had chased me out.

This time I passed on the nap in the death drawer —

once was more than enough for me. Instead I made my way over to the autopsy table, which looked like an ordinary table except for the strange grooves along the edges leading to an unplugged hole. The grooves were channels for blood to flow through as it drained from lifeless bodies, outlining them in parallel rivers of red. All evidence of the table's past had long been scrubbed away, but in the dark it was easy to imagine what a macabre scene it must have been.

The three of us gathered around the autopsy table. Cathi and I placed two digital voice recorders, a video camera, and a spirit box neatly on the table. Darla, our videographer, set up to film the session. We were hoping to catch an EVP or get some real-time responses through the spirit box.

The room took on a sepulchral vibe, and we felt the temperature drop. Unnatural sounds emanated from the shadows. Suddenly, a rusty metal chair in the corner rustled as if someone were getting up or sitting down on it. Of course, the chair appeared to be empty.

I tried not to think about the noises — there was work to be done.

Hoping to entice the spirits to talk to us through our equipment, we began the session with a few basic questions.

"What should we call you?"

The radio spewed out a series of names, "Rick ... Garth ... George ... Dave ... Sonny ... Dan ... Mike ..."

"How many of you are in here?"

"Seven," the spirit box said.

"Are you patients here?" I asked.

"Yes ... seven."

"Seven? Is that correct?" Cathi reiterated.

"Yes."

Someone was clearly talking to us through the box. Voices cut through the static and white noise, every word a distinct, intelligent response to our questions.

"Do you know what room we're in right now?" I asked.

"Morgue," came the response, loud and clear.

Mind blown — chills gripping body.

"Can you see us? How many women are in this room?"

"Some."

"Do you know our names? Do you know what my name is?"

"Theresa."

Uncomfortably personal.

At that exact moment, my camera shut off. The battery was fully charged; it was as if someone had physically pushed the power button and turned it off.

"Did you just shut my camera off?" I demanded of the spirit.

"YES," came the forceful response.

Many find it easy to dismiss the disjointed "answers" that come from the spirit box, chalking them up to coincidental radio chatter. But unequivocal responses to direct questions can help corroborate paranormal activity.

After the most successful spirit box session ever, we continued our investigation.

While conducting an EVP session, I thought I heard footsteps from within the room. Cathi heard a noise as well but believed it was coming from the autopsy table, which, upon approach, we noticed was vibrating and shaking our equipment against its metal surface.

"Oh my gosh, Theresa, feel this!" Cathi exclaimed.

The cold surface was indeed vibrating. Like a washing machine on spin cycle, it shook lightly but rapidly.

Between the temperature drop, moving chair sound, camera malfunction, autopsy table vibrations, and remarkable responses from the spirit box, we undoubtedly communicated with the dead of Waverly Hills Sanatorium in the morgue that night. ◆

Investigating Bobby Mackey's:
Determining the Value of an Investigation

By Bob Fountain, spectraltech.org

Those of us who are involved in paranormal investigations have many reasons as to why we investigate. Some go for the excitement or entertainment resulting from an investigation. Some go to find the ultimate proof of an afterlife. Many of us go to help people who don't understand what is happening to them. And there are some who go hoping they will be the next paranormal television personality.

Whatever the reason, we ultimately place a value on the investigations we embark upon. Whether it be a "big box" site or a private residence, it takes equipment, time, and a degree of coordination to carry out a successful investigation from start to finish. When we are done, and closing out an investigation, most of us privately ask ourselves, *Was it worth it?*

I recently had the honor of going out on an investigation at Bobby Mackey's Music World in Wilder, Kentucky, with *Paranormal Underground's* Chad Wilson and Cheryl Knight, along with fellow investigator Teresa West.

For those who don't know about Bobby Mackey's, it is said to contain active entities, as well as a supposed portal to Hell in its basement. It has been featured on several television shows about the paranormal, all of which captured huge amounts of evidence during their investigations.

We all spent hours on the road from our respective locations to meet up in Wilder. As is the case with all big-box/bucket-list kind of sites, the cost of hotels and entry into the location is not cheap. Added to that was the fact that Bobby Mackey's turns off the heat on closing Saturday night, and we were scheduled to investigate Sunday night, in November, in 20+ temperatures. So much for experiencing "cold spots." So, it goes without saying that the expense, and the possibility of hyperthermia, was a factor in the value of this investigation.

Pictured above (from left to right), Chad Wilson, Bob Fountain, and Teresa West investigate the basement of Bobby Mackey's Music World.

We found out that we were the second group of investigators for the night. There was a group before us that was just leaving when we arrived. This is not uncommon for sites that charge for the privilege to investigate, but in the back of my mind it reminds me of entertainment venues where there is a matinee and an evening show. Do you get the same energy from the cast in the second show?

It makes you wonder if the same thing happens with the entities residing at Bobby Mackey's. Do the spirits get tired of us, or run out of energy, and interact far less during the second round of investigators?

When we arrived, we were given a tour of the building and a brief history of the activity experienced there.

A few friends ventured out in the cold of November to investigate Bobby Mackey's Music World. Was it worth it?

We asked not to be given too much information to ensure we would not come to preconceived conclusions of anything we experienced.

We spent more than five hours investigating the entire building using an array of equipment. We did get some activity in the basement by the old dressing rooms used in the past when it was a night club. The dressing room was used by one of the key figures in the history of the club, and something set off our V-Pod device when it was placed on the counter in this room; but other than that, we experienced very little activity.

We concluded the investigation at one in the morning, tired, half frozen, and anxious to see what other evidence we may have captured with our equipment. This doesn't mean that Bobby Mackey's is a product of over-hyped PR. It just might have been a case of bad timing, or the spirits were too cold to show their presence. The entities were most likely sitting around some spiritual space heater, laughing at us as we shivered uncontrollably.

SOMETHING SET OUR V-POD OFF IN THE BASEMENT NEAR THE OLD DRESSING ROOMS.

Monday morning, we all said our goodbyes and began our long journeys home.

During the seven-hour drive back home, I contemplated the investigation and if it was worth it. Did I think I would find the proof we all want that the afterlife is real? Nope, not even a consideration. Most of us know that we are not going to find the proof we want in a commercial enterprise like Bobby Mackey's or perhaps Waverly Hills Sanatorium, although I must admit Waverly Hills does live up to its reputation.

Besides going for the bragging rights of saying you have been there, you may go for the same reason search and rescue dogs are allowed to "find" survivors in staged areas so they don't get depressed. After search and rescue dogs find so many dead bodies in a disaster, they are often taken to special areas where a live person is staged in rubble to be found "alive" by the dogs. It gives them hope and the incentive to keep trying.

I believe we often go to these high activity sites where we are ensured to "find" proof of the paranormal and give us the incentive to keep trying as well.

So, was Bobby Mackey's worth it? For me, based on the above criteria, no, it wasn't. However, within the bigger picture, yes, it was. I got to meet two exceptional people, Chad and Cheryl, whom I only knew through phone calls and social media, and Teresa, a delightful lady that I now consider a friend.

When I arrived home, and started to review the data collected, I realized that anything I found would just be frosting on the cake. Unfortunately, there was nothing more than a few mumbles on the recorders. It happens. Hopefully, Chad and Cheryl will find more in the data

→

WARNING TO OUR PATRONS:
THIS ESTABLISHMENT IS PROPORTED
TO BE HAUNTED. MANAGEMENT
IS NOT RESPONSIBLE AND CANNOT
BE HELD LIABLE FOR ANY ACTIONS
OF ANY GHOSTS/SPIRITS ON THIS PREMISES

Pictured above at left is a warning sign inside Bobby Mackey's letting patrons know about its active paranormal activity. Pictured above at right is the infamous well in the location's basement where demonic activity has been reported.

they are reviewing and it turns out to be worth it to them as well.

Conversely, on a previous investigation, our team investigated the home of an elderly lady who was hearing voices and experiencing paranormal activity in her home. Her daughters decided she was simply developing dementia and was contemplating putting her in a nursing home.

When we concluded our investigation, and presented the evidence, we convinced the daughters that she did have activity in her house. We were able to capture voices during our investigation, so the women's daughters were able to hear them for themselves.

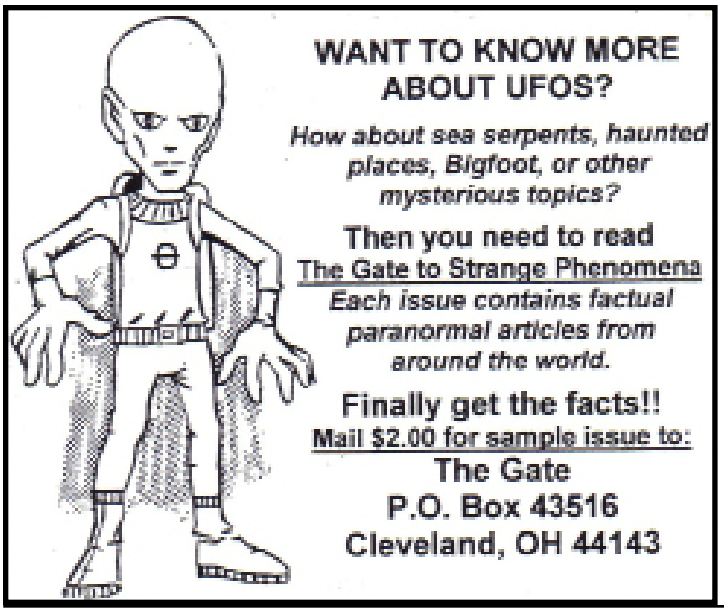
Thus, the woman did not need to go to a nursing home. Since the activity was native-American based, we had the house cleansed and blessed by a Cherokee shaman. All the activity ceased. We left with the knowledge that we saved a lady from being wrongly placed in a nursing home. Was it worth it? Absolutely!

The point of all this is to consider what you are expecting before you begin an investigation. We often ask a client what they expect as an outcome of an investigation. Sometimes we need to ask ourselves the same thing. Are you expecting to be entertained, finding universal or spiritual truths, or changing someone's life?

The value of an investigation may not lie in the EVPs you record or the video you capture. The value may depend on who you investigate with, whose life you may change, and what you ultimately get out of the overall experience.

Finally, would I ever go back to Bobby Mackey's? Yup ... but not in November.

To learn more about Bobby Mackey's Music World, visit http://www.bobbymackey.com/. ◆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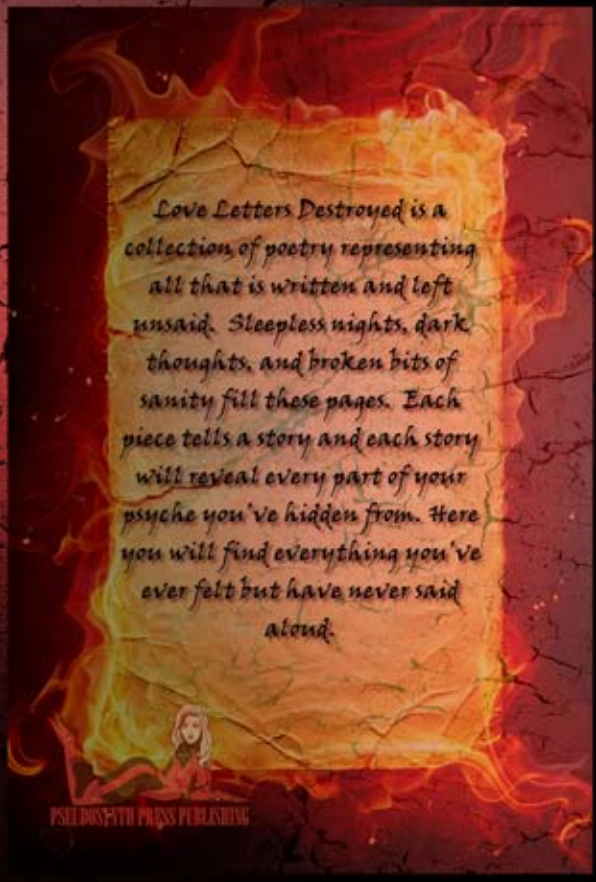
Love Letters Destroyed is Winter Balefire's first book of poetry now available at Amazon, Lulu, Barnes & Noble and all fine retailers that sell great books. Pick it up in eBook and signed paperback editions today!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'Badgering the Bear: A Paranormal Shifter Romance':

By Flora Dare

Q&A by Michelle M. Pillow, MichellePillow.com

Paranormal romance author Flora Dare lives in Durham, North Carolina, in a cute, little pink house with her husband, Scott, and their hellion of a puppy, HaliToeses.

Flora writes love, lust, and mayhem in almost every flavor, and like *The Pirate Movie*, she wants a happy ending every time! One of her latest releases, *Badgering the Bear: A Paranormal Shifter Romance*, released July 2016. Continue reading to find out more about Flora's interest in the paranormal, as well as her inspirations for writing.

* * * * *

Q: Why do you think readers are fascinated by the paranormal?

Flora: Oh man, I don't know that I can speak for everyone, but at least it seems to me that there is a very human fascination with things that happen beneath the surface that we can't easily see.

I love the idea of peeling back the skin of society and seeing secret worlds that are close enough to touch but we have no idea are there.

Q: What are your favorite paranormal shows, movies, and books?

Flora: Trying to keep this to a reasonable number is hard. *Stranger Things* just knocked my socks off; we ended up staying up all night binging on it.

I loved *Buffy the Vampire Slayer*. I enjoy reading people's real-life ghost stories, just not at night when I'm alone, which is when I always seem to read them.

Q: Do you believe in the supernatural?

While Flora is a skeptic, she doesn't believe we are the only life in the Universe. She also thinks there are many things yet to be discovered in Earth's "unplumbed depths."

Flora: I'm a skeptic, but I want to believe! I don't believe we are the only life in the Universe, and I do think there are many wonderful things yet to be discovered in Earth's unplumbed depths.

Q: What kind of paranormal creatures do you NEVER want to meet?

Flora: It's easy to think of paranormal creatures as being all good, but I grew up reading the old school fairy tales, myths, and legends, and there are a lot of real nasty creatures.

I love a modern, sexy vampire story, but it's always in the back of my head that we have softened the heck out of them. So, hard pass on vampires.

Q: Would you jump into a fairy ring?

Flora: No way! I've read about the fae. You are just as likely to run into epic nastiness as you are to have a lovely time. Plus, time moves differently; it never ends well.

Q: How feasible is a zombie apocalypse?

Flora: Not at all! But I still love thinking about how it could possibly happen.

Q: Choose your fate: Would you rather face being abducted by menacing aliens or face an imminent threat of zombies?

Flora: Menacing aliens! Because then it would mean we are definitely not alone. Also, they are way more likely to be able to be reasoned with than zombies.

Q: Choose your fate: Who would you rather face off with, a vampire, a werewolf, or a warlock?

Flora: A warlock. Realistically, even with magic, humans are a lot easier to kill.

Q: If you could be anywhere while writing, where would you be and why?

> "I've read about the fae. You are just as likely to run into epic nastiness as you are to have a lovely time."

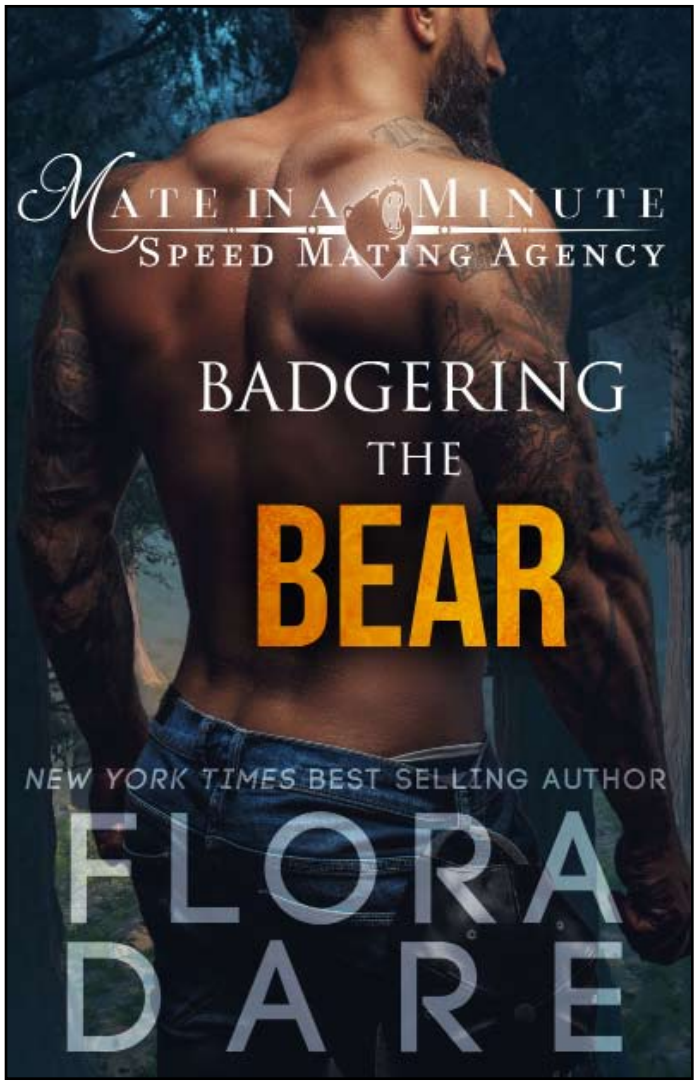
Flora: This is my paranormal fantasy. I would love a little cottage that if I walked out one way, I was right on a beach, and I could listen to the waves crash and the seagulls scream while I write.

And, if I walked out the other way, I was on a mountain and could sit on a moss-covered rock next to a wee creek with a wee waterfall.

Q: When writing a new paranormal world, what details do you think are most important?

Flora: I almost always build out the world first. Mostly, something will pop in my head, like, 'What if suddenly everyone could tell if people were lying?'

I have a long set of notes somewhere figuring out how the legal system would have to change and how we would deal with that. I sort of worked that concept into part of the world of a novella I wrote, *Her Selkie Secret*, but haven't been able to fully figure out what that world would look like.



In the book *Badgering the Bear: A Paranormal Shifter Romance*, "curvy badger shifter Jolie is nagged by her best friend to check out shifter speed dating (OK, she might have lost a bet). It's pretty boring, though, until she sees ... him. Gabe is big. He's burly. And just the touch of his hand on hers sets Jolie's body aflame with need."

Q: What is your favorite ghost story?

Flora: I love variations on *The Hitchhiker* — the idea that someone wants to come home so badly that they'll keep trying after they've died.

* * * * *

To learn more about Flora and her books visit http://www.floradare.com/ and https://www.facebook.com/FloraDareWrites.◆

ARRANGED MARRIAGE PERFECT JUXTAPOSE IN GOTHIC TWISTER

An interview with *New York Times* and *USA Today* bestselling author Michelle M. Pillow

By Tyler Tichelaar, Ph.D.

Q: How long have you been writing professionally?

Michelle: My first paranormal romance was published in 2004 under the title *The Mists of Midnight*. It has since been revised and was just re-released under the title *Forget Me Not*.

Q: How many novels have you published?

Michelle: Over 100.

Q: Wow. What's your secret for producing so much? Do you write on a specific schedule?

Michelle: I wish there was a magic formula I could share, but it comes down to hard work. I treat writing like a career — one that I love, but one that demands a lot of work and dedication due to the competitive nature of the business. It's a full-time-plus job that I'm always doing.

At any given time, I'll have several projects in various stages. Some are in the planning and research stage. Others are being written. Then others will be with editors. Then there are aspects of being a professional author that people often forget about — namely marketing and promotions. It's not all book signings and appearances, either. I've had to learn how to build Websites, run online ad campaigns, and build graphics. It's a balancing act, and there are times where I'm up until 3 a.m. just to make a deadline.

All that said, I absolutely love my job. To be a writer, I think that's important. You have to love it, feel it inside of you as something you have to do, or this industry and the sacrifices it demands will wear you down fast.

Q: Are all your books in the same genre?

Michelle: As a writer, I love to tell a story and not be

Michelle Pillow has more than 100 book titles to her name. She has been inspired by various authors, including Austen, Bronte, Dumas, James Fenimore Cooper, Tolstoy, Steinbeck, Shelley, Stoker, and Poe.

→

Michelle Pillow's New Novel Reflects That Gothic Romance Is Alive and Well

Review by Tyler R. Tichelaar, Ph.D. and award-winning author of *Spirit of the North: A Paranormal Romance* and *The Gothic Wanderer*

As a scholar of the classic Gothic novel of the 19th Century, from time to time I like to read 21st Century Gothic novels to see how well the seeds that Mrs. Radcliffe planted are flourishing. I'm happy to report that authors like Michelle Pillow are keeping the Gothic tradition alive and well by utilizing standard Gothic plot devices but making them their own as the Gothic evolves into something more spiritual and less terrifying than its originators may have first imagined.

Forget Me Not has all the classic Gothic elements a reader could want, and it draws heavily upon those early novels for its setting and atmosphere. We can also define it as a regency novel — since it's set in England in 1812 — when George IV was still Prince Regent of England. Readers today might call it paranormal rather than Gothic, and, of course, it also falls into the romance novel category.

Michelle M. Pillow

The story begins when Isabel Drake and her sister, Jane, are speculating about whether Rothfield Park is haunted. The family has let the manor house from its owner, the Marquis of Rothfield. Legend says that during a fire, a child and servant died in the house. Jane claims that she has seen evidence of hauntings in the castle, but Isabel thinks Jane has just let her imagination get the better of her after reading a "shilling shocker." (Shilling shockers were popular short books in the 19th Century that often plagiarized longer best-selling Gothic novels and were abridged to be affordable, costing only a shilling.) This scene recalls Jane Austen's Northanger Abbey and the thrills that Catherine Morland and Isabella Thorpe have over reading "horrid" novels by Mrs. Radcliffe and others.

Isabel, however, has bigger problems than ghosts. Her parents do not like how she treats her governess, so they have decided to hire a tutor approved by the colonel, nephew to the Marquis of Rothfield, whom they plan for her to marry. Isabel wants nothing to do with marrying the colonel or with a new tutor.

In anger, Isabel goes riding and comes to the woods, where a heavy mist is setting in. She meets there a mysterious child who asks her to play with her, but Isabel refuses, feeling spooked. As she tries to return home, she has an accident with a tree branch and falls from her horse.

Isabel has no memory of the accident, but by the time she recovers, she finds her parents have left her alone at Rothfield with her new tutor, Dougal Weston. Here, I admit, my willing suspension of disbelief was a bit challenged — no self-respecting noble family of this time would leave their daughter alone with just the servants and a handsome male tutor — but Michelle Pillow will provide some surprising and ultimately believable explanations for this chain of events before the novel is over.

Dougal Weston turns out to be unlike any tutor Isabel ever expected. He really doesn't teach her much of anything — just asks her to read and then discuss with him what she read. Isabel soon starts to suspect he isn't a tutor but someone with an ulterior motive for being at Rothfield.

Nevertheless, Isabel finds herself falling in love with him and confesses to him that she is now repeatedly seeing the ghost child. Dougal appears interested in the history of the house and the ghost child, but he also tries to comfort Isabel and calm her fears. His comforting eventually goes a bit too far — though Isabel doesn't object — and you guess it, they have quite enjoyable sex. Before long, Isabel is starting to consider how she might shirk off her social status and marriage expectations to run off and live in a cottage with Dougal.

Eventually, however, Isabel begins to suspect Dougal is just using her to learn more about the ghost child. Dougal then asks Reverend Stillwell to speak to Isabel about the ghosts. Reverend Stillwell is a sort of medium who can communicate with the dead; he explains things to Isabel about ghosts that make her feel more comfortable and realize she isn't crazy. He also will encourage Isabel and Dougal to seek happiness.

I can't say more without giving away all the plot twists, but I will just say that I love how Michelle Pillow takes old Gothic themes and makes them new. Before the story is over, there's even a cursed man who has made a Faustian pact to obtain knowledge from evil wizards in exchange for his soul. However, he can prevent himself from going to Hell if he captures other souls for the devil — a classic Victorian twist previously used by authors like George W.M. Reynolds in *The Necromancer* (1852). Pillow also draws on regency novel conventions — there's even a runaway marriage to Gretna Green, worthy of a Jane Austen novel. Finally, I didn't see the final plot twist at the end, though I think I should have, but in any case, I was delighted by it.

Forget Me Not is not quite Jane Austen, but if you enjoyed books like *Pride and Prejudice and Zombies* or *Mr. Darcy, Vampyre*, then *Forget Me Not* should give you plenty of ghostly pleasure. If you're a fan of television shows like *The Ghost Whisperer* or films like *The Sixth Sense*, you'll also find more enjoyable modern spins on ghosts and the Gothic in these pages.

After you finish *Forget Me Not*, I suspect you will want to read more of Michelle Pillow's novels — fortunately, she has written plenty in both the romance and paranormal genres.

For more information about Forget Me Not and Michelle Pillow, visit www.MichellePillow.com.◆

limited by one time period or genre, so you'll see a variety of books under my name.

When I create characters and the worlds they live in, I like to set them down and throw things at them, and then just let them react the way their personalities and histories would dictate. I often never know how a story is going to end when I start it.

Q: Which authors inspire you?

Michelle: In high school, I loved the section of the library where I'd find books that hadn't been checked out for decades. This ended up being a lot of the literary classics — Austen, Bronte, Dumas, James Fenimore Cooper, and Tolstoy. *Pride and Prejudice* is still a favorite. The romantic in me loves the courtship of Darcy and Elizabeth, including his not-so-well-done first marriage proposal. These books were like little buried treasures I'd read on my lunch breaks. I have always loved history and, ultimately, went to college to study it, and these books afforded a peek into historical lives and struggles.

Later, I discovered Steinbeck, including his travelogue, *Travels With Charley: In Search of America.* His insights into the wide variety of people he met and into the universal feeling people had in longing to be somewhere else, anywhere but where they were, spoke to me, as I began to consider my own characters and their motivations.

Many of my books have historical and/or paranormal influences, even if they are not strictly historically set. Some of the stories that inspire me have inspired many, including Shelley and Stoker, along with various other Gothic writers and ideas. I find the Victorian notions of vampires entertaining and very in line with societal beliefs at the time — including not being able to enter a home without an invitation, which reflected the social art of how to properly call on a person's home and receive guests as a way to safeguard decent people from evil. Edgar Allan Poe was another author I enjoyed, especially the mental breakdown in *The Tell-Tale Heart.*

Q: In your latest novel *Forget Me Not,* arranged marriage is the pretense for the story, which offers up all kinds of stringent gender roles. Was it a conscious decision to do that?

Michelle: Arranged marriages in the 1800s are simply a continuation of a phenomena that had been around since ancient times. Marriage was seen as a logical choice, from the desire to make advantageous matches for a family that were both financially sound and socially acceptable.

It was with the Victorians that the idea of romantic love really started to take real hold. Consider for a moment Queen Victoria and Prince Albert; theirs is recognized as a love match. *Forget Me Not* is set during the Regency period in a world that really marks a time of change between the thought processes of the Middle Ages to modern-day society as we recognize it. Now, we would hardly think it acceptable (and rightly so) that a woman belonged first to her father and then to her husband, including her belongings.

To be honest, though, arranged marriages create the perfect backdrop for romance and conflict to happen.

Q: Does your main character Isabel Drake rebel against protocol?

Michelle: Absolutely! Unlike her meeker younger sister, Jane, Isabel cares less about being a good and dutiful daughter and wants more out of life than to marry for money and comfort. The book takes place in 1812 when marriages weren't necessarily always arranged, but they were treated as more of a business decision than simply off the basis of love and desire.

The general opinion was that women needed a

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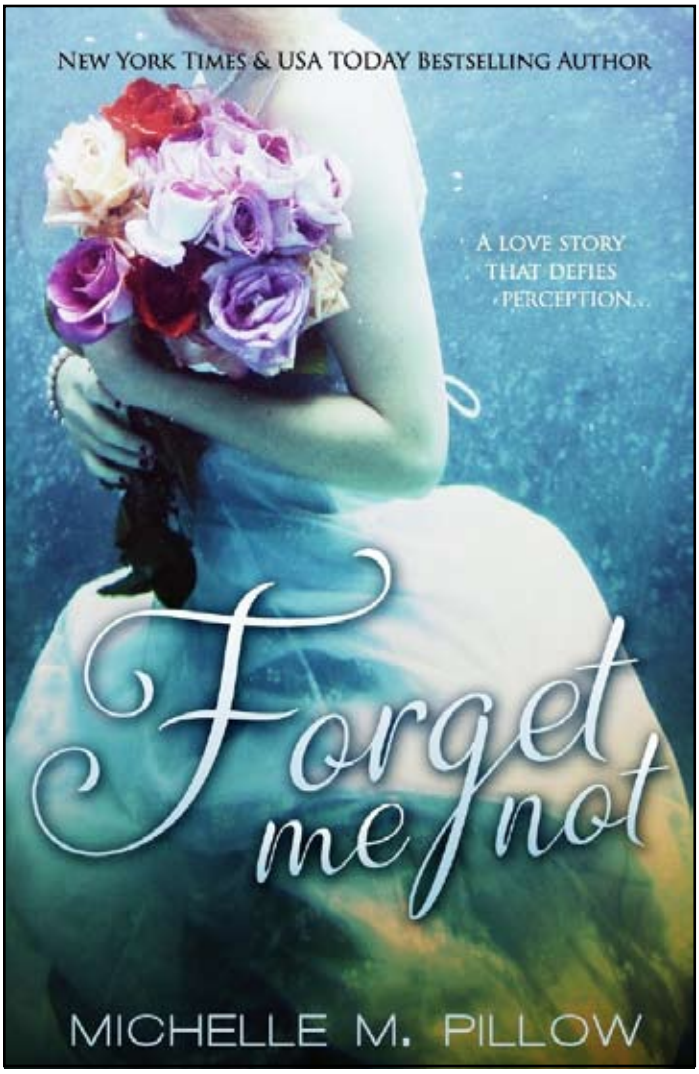

"When the willfully independent Isabel Drake refuses to marry the man her parents want her to, her mother decides as punishment she will be forced to take lessons on how to be a proper lady. But the man sent to instruct her makes her feel anything but proper. Her attraction to Mr. Weston is instant ..."

breadwinner, and men wanted a woman who could take care of the home and children. Marriages became more of a partnership agreement, often instigated or encouraged by families.

As an interesting fact, in regards to a woman being the property of her husband, in 1882 the Married Women's Property Act became law to allow a woman to own presents given to her. True story.

Q: Dougal Weston is Isabel's "tutor" in the novel. Would you say he is the archetypical aloof romantic hero à la Mr. Darcy, or is he more of an antihero?

Michelle: Dougal is a classic leading man with his own personal goal to achieve in the story, nothing to do with Isabel at first, even though he appears as her tutor. But when their stories collide, this whole new realm of possibilities opens up.

It adds several layers to the story, which peel back at the right time. Like everyone, these characters are complicated with many motivations and needs.

Q: Speaking of layers, there's no shortage of twists—well-thought-of twists—in *Forget Me Not*. Did they come naturally, or were they devices as milestones that you built the story around?

Michelle: Great question. I was very lucky with this story. It was one of the first books I wrote, and it was actually the first one that was published back in 2004. And it flowed from start to finish. My muse was kind to me back then.

Q: Talking of muses, how do see your muse?

Michelle: She's a crazy lady with an endless supply of cups of coffee and a very demanding personality. I think she'd be happiest if I typed two books at once. *Dr. Who* fans will know what I'm talking about when I liken her to the angel statue in "Blink."

Q: How or where does *Forget Me Not* fit in the stack of Michelle M. Pillow's works?

Michelle: Well, it's romance, which is what I do. But then the Regency and the Gothic (which I classify as Paranormal) aspect of it puts *Forget Me Not* slightly off center from my futuristic and shifter works.

When I started writing, Historicals were what I really wanted to do. But as it turned out, I found traction with other subgenres of romance.

Q: Is there a follow up to *Forget Me Not*?

Michelle: No. *Forget Me Not* is a standalone title. I do think it gives the reader's mind plenty to daydream about and imagine in the world created, away from the words actually written.

I do have other historical novels, including the National RT Award winner *Maiden and the Monster*. It is a medieval-set historical romance. I also have other stories with the same feel and tone as *Forget Me Not*. One would be the shorter work, *Everlastingly*.

Q: Thank you, Michelle, for joining me today. Where can we learn more about your novels?

Michelle: Visit me at www.MichellePillow.com. Information and buy links for all of my novels are there. They can be found at most major bookstores. Thank you for having me. ◆

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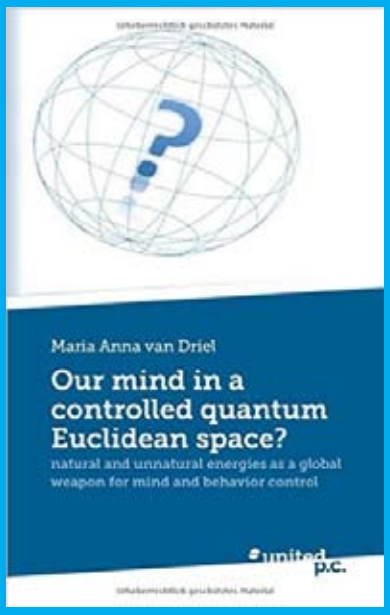
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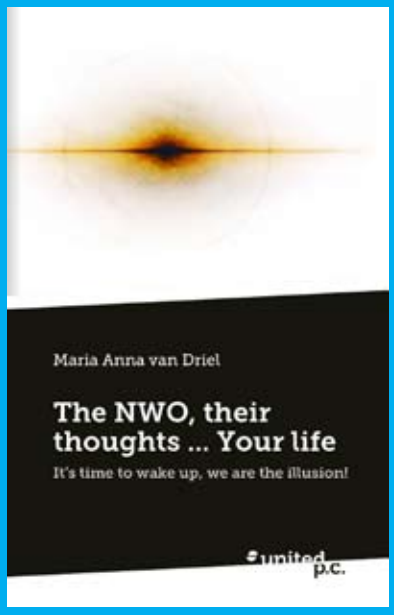

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